United Nations S/2002/77

Security Council

Distr.: General
17 January 2002

Original: English

Letter dated 15 January 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Portugal to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to inform you that the Portuguese Government has decided, pursuant to Security Council resolution 1386 (2001) of 20 December 2001, to participate in the International Security Assistance Force for Afghanistan by contributing one C-130 aircraft and one medical team. Portugal is in consultation with the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland with regard to its contribution. Participation in the Force has been authorized for 90 days from the time the Force is considered operational or, at a maximum, until 30 April 2002.

I would be grateful if the present letter could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Francisco **Seixas da Costa**
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative

02-21825 (E) 180102

United Nations A/56/776–S/2002/78

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
17 January 2002

Original: English

General Assembly
Fifty-sixth session
Agenda items 20 (f), 43 and 166

Security Council
Fifty-seventh year

Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: emergency international assistance for peace, normalcy and reconstruction of war-stricken Afghanistan

The situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security

Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Letter dated 15 January 2002 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of China to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The Foreign Ministers of the members of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, namely, the People's Republic of China, the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Russian Federation, the Republic of Tajikistan and the Republic of Uzbekistan, met in Beijing on 7 January 2002 and issued a joint declaration (see annex).

On behalf of the Permanent Missions of the members of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, I have the honour to transmit herewith the attached joint declaration signed by the Ministers. I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 20 (f), 43 and 166, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) **Shen** Guofang
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission
of China to the United Nations

02-22245 (E) 230102 240102

Annex to the letter dated 15 January 2002 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of China to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Chinese and Russian]

Joint declaration by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the States members of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization

The Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the States members of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) held, on 7 January 2002 in Beijing, an extraordinary meeting, during which the Ministers, having discussed current pressing problems relating to regional security and cooperation and prospects for developing the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, achieved broad mutual understanding and adopted the following joint declaration:

I

1. The unfolding of recent events in Afghanistan convincingly demonstrates the correctness and farsightedness of the policy selected by SCO for organizing on a priority basis cooperation between its States members in the area of maintaining regional security and stability and combating three threats — terrorism, separatism and extremism.

After the events of 11 September 2001, the heads of Government of the SCO States members quickly issued a special declaration, sharply condemning that terrorist act. SCO was one of the first international organizations that reacted to the events of 11 September.

2. As close neighbours of Afghanistan, we have been directly subjected, for a long period of time, to terrorist and drug-trafficking threats originating in its territory long before the events of 11 September and have repeatedly warned the international community about the danger of these threats. Precisely for this reason, the SCO States members actively participated in the anti-terrorist coalition and undertook measures to further intensify the work of SCO in the anti-terrorism field.

3. The SCO States members fully support the measures provided for under United Nations Security Council resolutions 1373 (2001), 1377 (2001), 1383 (2001) and 1386 (2001) and are cooperating to the full extent with the Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee established under resolution 1373 (2001).

II

1. The States members of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization welcome the deliverance of the Afghan people from the Taliban regime, which was closely linked to international terrorism, and support the efforts of Afghanistan, the States of the region and the entire international community to provide reliable guarantees ensuring that Afghanistan will never again be a centre for spreading terrorism, separatism, extremism and narcotic drugs.

2. We want Afghanistan to become a peaceful and neutral State which respects and observes human rights and fundamental freedoms, supports friendly relations with all neighbouring countries and carries out its international obligations.

3. The SCO States members support the Bonn Agreement of 5 December 2001 and the efforts of the Afghan people to establish a broadly representative government with the participation of the various ethnic groups. We shall provide active support to the interim administration of Afghanistan.

At the same time, we consider that merely the first step has been taken on the difficult path of the post-crisis construction of Afghanistan. We call on the international community to cooperate within the framework of the United Nations in order to prevent a further destabilization of the situation in Afghanistan, which might jeopardize the process of achieving a political settlement. We call upon all Afghans participating in this process to act on the basis of cooperation, and not confrontation.

4. Determining Afghanistan's future political system and the choice of the structure and nature of the government bodies are the inalienable right of the Afghan people themselves. All members of the international community must respect Afghanistan's sovereignty, territorial integrity and State unity and prevent interference in its internal affairs, thereby creating favourable external conditions for the normal development of Afghan society. Any attempts to impose on Afghanistan one or another form of government or drawing that country into the sphere of anyone's influence may lead to a new crisis in and around Afghanistan.

5. We stress the need for close cooperation by the International Security Assistance Force with Afghanistan's interim administration. The activities of the International Security Assistance Force should be conducted in accordance with the United Nations Security Council mandate and with the consent of Afghanistan's legitimate authorities.

6. The SCO States members support the provision of broad international humanitarian assistance to the Afghan people and intend to make their contribution to these efforts through their own deliveries of aid and by providing transport corridors for shipments by other countries and international organizations.

7. The SCO States members advocate the continuation of the broad international efforts under the auspices of the United Nations aimed at Afghanistan's economic recovery. We also agree that the SCO States members will, both independently and acting within the framework of the United Nations, participate in projects for the economic reconstruction of Afghanistan.

III

1. The downfall of the Taliban regime in Afghanistan does not signify the automatic elimination of international terrorist units and groups. We condemn and are resolutely combating terrorism in all its manifestations and oppose the use of terrorist methods to achieve political objectives. We are fully determined to continue efforts in order to neutralize to the greatest extent the existing terrorist threat, including in the territories of our countries, and we call upon the international community to provide us with the appropriate support.

2. The SCO States members firmly advocate the view that counteracting terrorism, which has no specific national or regional affiliation, should not be identified as a struggle against any religion or freedom of religious belief, or individual countries or nationalities. The threat of terrorism must be effectively combated at all levels — the global, regional, and national levels. This struggle must be devoid of bias and "double standards". All the SCO States members are equally concerned about the terrorist threat, understand the actions taken by States members to combat that threat and consider them an important integral part of the international struggle against terrorism.

3. The SCO States members unanimously agree that the leading role in the international struggle against terrorism must be played by the United Nations and its Security Council. All anti-terrorist operations must be in keeping with the objectives and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and other generally recognized norms of international law; the framework for such operations cannot be expanded arbitrarily, and they must not be accompanied by interference in the internal affairs of sovereign States. They must as a whole correspond to the long-term interests of maintaining peace in the region and throughout the world.

4. We believe that, in view of the current development of the situation, there is an urgent need for the international community to speedily draw up a comprehensive convention on combating international terrorism and a convention on combating acts of nuclear terrorism that will be acceptable for all sides.

5. The SCO States members consider that a worldwide system for counteracting terrorism must be based on regional, subregional and national structures and they resolutely intend to complete in the near future the establishment of a SCO anti-terrorist structure in Bishkek. They express the hope that similar structures will also be established within the framework of other regional and subregional associations, which will promote the international struggle against terrorism.

6. We call on the international community to devise a new concept of security based on principles of mutual trust, mutual advantage, equality and cooperation that promotes the settlement of questions of development and the problems of regional conflict, the radical reduction of factors that undermine security, and the eradication of the sources of terrorism.

7. The SCO States members express serious concern at the increased tension between India and Pakistan. We hope that the two countries will demonstrate restraint, prevent a further aggravation of the situation, renew political dialogue in order to bring about a suitable settlement of the problem, and join their efforts in the struggle against the worldwide terrorist threat.

IV

1. The Shanghai Cooperation Organization is an open structure. We are prepared to engage in close cooperation with neighbouring States as well as States and associations outside the region in the task of ensuring security and stability in our region. SCO is prepared for constructive dialogue and cooperation with Afghanistan's interim administration and the future Afghan government structures and calls upon the legitimate Afghan leaders to cooperate closely with the organization.

2. The Afghan settlement process provides a unique historic chance to achieve long-term peace and stability in the region. SCO is firmly resolved to make a vital contribution to achieving this noble objective.

3. The Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the SCO States members discussed in detail the prospects for developing the organization's activities in all areas of priority.

We consider that expanding confidence-building measures, political cooperation, trade, economic and investment cooperation and cultural and humanitarian ties within the SCO framework is one of the most important prerequisites for strengthening regional security and stability.

4. On this basis, we shall make practical efforts to solve the problems of regional security and development and, at the same time, speed up the organizational formation of SCO and its structures for the organization's next summit in St. Petersburg in June 2002 in accordance with instructions from the heads of State and Government. We are confident that this will promote efforts to make SCO an important factor for supporting regional security and development.

(*Signed*)
Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan

(*Signed*)
Minister for Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China

(*Signed*)
Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic

(*Signed*)
Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation

(*Signed*)
Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Tajikistan

(*Signed*)
Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan

Beijing, 7 January 2002

United Nations A/56/778–S/2002/79

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
18 January 2002

Original: English

General Assembly
Fifty-sixth session
Agenda item 166
Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Security Council
Fifty-seventh year

Letter dated 17 January 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I wish to draw your attention to the latest attack perpetrated by the terrorist organization Hizbullah.

On the afternoon of 15 January, Hizbullah terrorists fired anti-aircraft shells at Israeli aircraft that were flying in Israeli airspace. Though the shells missed their intended targets in the sky, pieces of shrapnel fell on the northern Israeli city of Kiryat Shmona, forcing residents to flee underground into bomb shelters.

This is not the first time that Hizbullah has launched cross-border assaults into Israel. Residents of Kiryat Shmona and other northern communities have suffered for years from indiscriminate attacks by Hizbullah, particularly the firing of Katyusha rockets at population centres. This tactic has claimed the lives of many Israeli civilians and wounded scores of others over the years, while terrorizing communities in the area by forcing residents to spend lengthy periods of time in bomb shelters.

I have detailed a number of other major Hizbullah attacks in my letters dated 6 July 2001 (A/56/161-S/2001/673), 16 April 2001 (S/2001/367), 16 February 2001 (A/55/792-S/2001/142), 6 February 2001 (A/55/767-S/2001/111), 26 November 2000 (S/2000/1121), 23 October 2000 (S/2000/1011), 19 October 2000 (S/2000/1002) and 7 October 2000 (S/2000/969). Among these are the abduction and murder of three Israeli soldiers on 7 October 2000 and the abduction of an Israeli civilian, Elhanan Tenenboim, several days later.

Hizbullah's terrorist operations against Israel, and the failure of the Government of Lebanon to prevent Hizbullah from launching attacks against Israel from its territory, constitute a flagrant disregard for the Blue Line as determined by the United Nations and violate fundamental norms of international law, most recently reaffirmed by Security Council resolution 1373 (2001), which obligates all States to prevent their territory from serving as a base for terrorist operations. These attacks further violate the provisions of Security Council resolutions 425 (1978), 426 (1978), 1310 (2000), 1337 (2001) and 1365 (2001), which call for the restoration of international peace and security, the return of the effective authority

02-21911 (E) 210102

and presence of the Government of Lebanon in the south and respect for the integrity of the Blue Line as determined by the Secretary-General and endorsed by the Security Council. The Secretary-General has noted, in his report of 22 January 2001 (S/2001/66), that Hizbullah's attacks in the Shab'a farms area were "deliberate acts in breach of the decisions of the Security Council".

The resolutions of the Security Council and established principles of international law clearly refute any contention that the use of armed force against Israel across the Blue Line is a legitimate act that can serve as a substitute for the duty, as enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, to resolve disputes by peaceful means. Indeed, the repeated claims of legitimacy put forward by Hizbullah and its supporters for acts of terror flout the will of the international community, which is uniting to fight terrorism wherever it may breed.

As is well known, Hizbullah is based in southern Lebanon, but it maintains cells and a logistical and financial support network with a presence on several continents. It has the backing of several Governments renowned for their support of terrorism, most notably the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Syrian Arab Republic, and receives funds from clandestine institutions in various parts of the globe. In the nearly two decades since its founding, the organization has been responsible for numerous high-profile acts of terrorism, both in the Middle East and beyond, including the bombing of the Multinational Force headquarters in Beirut in 1983 that claimed the lives of 240 U.S. Marines and 58 French soldiers and the hijacking of a TWA jetliner in June 1985. Hizbullah is also responsible for two attacks in Buenos Aires — the bombings of the Embassy of Israel (1992) and the AMIA Jewish Community Centre in Buenos Aires (1994) — which killed a total of 114 civilians and injured hundreds more.

Hizbullah is also actively involved in Palestinian terrorism, providing training, financial support and other assistance to Palestinian terrorist groups operating against Israeli civilians, most notably Hamas and Islamic Jihad. Terrorists from these groups routinely receive training at Hizbullah's bases in Lebanon, as well as logistical and financial assistance. Most recently, Hizbullah was shown to be involved in the attempt to smuggle sophisticated weaponry to the Palestinian Authority aboard the *Karine A*, an incident that I referred to in my letter dated 4 January 2002 (A/56/766-S/2002/25). The 50 tons of weapons and ammunition aboard the *Karine A*, which were intercepted by Israeli forces before they could reach their destination, would have substantially upgraded the capability of Palestinian terrorists to threaten civilian lives.

Like the Palestinian terrorist groups that it supports, as well as those countries that lend it political and financial support, Hizbullah is committed to the destruction of the State of Israel. Statements by Hizbullah's leaders calling for the destruction of Israel belie any claims that Hizbullah's activities are aimed solely at driving Israel from the Shab'a farms region, acts which themselves have been declared illegitimate by the Secretary-General. In a speech delivered in Tehran on 24 April 2001, Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah, Hizbullah's Secretary-General, said the following:

> "We are living in a very sensitive and crucial period, which demands the need to adopt the choice of resistance. From the historic victory in Lebanon to the failure of the negotiations and the emergence of the intifada, our nation has now a historic opportunity to wipe out the cancerous Israeli project which has been threatening our region for 50 years ... The fully armed Zionist military

should await surprise attacks from Palestinians. I say to the Zionists — and I mean it —wait for us, we will come to you from everywhere."

On 14 December 2001, Nasrallah made an even more explicit threat against Israeli civilians:

"On this final Friday of the month of Ramadan I say to you: Don't listen to those who tell you it is forbidden to carry out suicide attacks. Don't listen to those who talk about 'civilians and soldiers' in Israel ... I am saying to you with all the legitimate responsibility, the moral and 'Jihad-like', that there are no civilians [in it]. They are all occupiers, all of them are stealers of land, all of them are partners in the crime and in the massacre. Therefore we must continue in this way without any doubt or illusion."

For nearly two decades, Hizbullah has adopted the language and the tactics of a terrorist organization, deliberately targeting innocent civilians to further its goals.

Hizbullah's lengthy and detailed record of bombings, murders, abductions and other terrorist acts against civilians, and the repeated declarations of its leaders and terrorist masterminds that its acts of terrorism will continue, palpably demonstrates that Hizbullah is a terrorist group that poses a grave threat to innocent civilians and whose terrorist infrastructure must be dismantled in the context of the international community's campaign against terrorism. In this respect, we are encouraged that Imad Mughniyeh, a senior Hizbullah officer responsible for scores of attacks, hijackings and bombings over the years, has been listed as one of the world's most wanted terrorists, and that groups to which Hizbullah has provided support and assistance have been designated as terrorist organizations.

It is critical that the international community conduct its campaign against terrorism in a consistent, fearless and unwavering manner. It makes little sense to brand an organization's leaders as terrorists and designate other groups that the organization trains as terrorists while failing to apply that same designation to the organization itself. Such a failure would legitimize the continuation of operations by Hizbullah and solidify the refusal of its supporting Governments to comply with the anti-terror resolutions of the Security Council, thereby severely undermining international efforts against terrorism. The success of our efforts to rid the world of the scourge of terrorism requires that standards be applied uniformly such that every potential terrorist understands that the international community will not tolerate any act of terrorism, regardless of cause or grievance.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter circulated as a document of the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 166, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Yehuda **Lancry**
Permanent Representative

United Nations S/2002/80

Security Council

Distr.: General
17 January 2002

Original: English

Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor

For the period from 16 October 2001 to 18 January 2002

I. Introduction

1. The present report is submitted pursuant to Security Council resolution 1338 (2001) of 31 January 2001, by which the Council decided to extend the mandate of the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor (UNTAET) until 31 January 2002. In that resolution, the Council stressed the need for a substantial international presence in East Timor after independence and requested me to make detailed recommendations in this regard, in close consultation with the East Timorese people and in coordination with other relevant international and bilateral actors.

2. The present report describes developments in East Timor since my report of 18 October 2001 (S/2001/983 and Corr.1). It is divided into two parts. The first contains an assessment of the progress made in the implementation of UNTAET's mandate provided by the Security Council under resolutions 1272 (1999) and 1338 (2001). The second, pursuant to the statement by the President of the Security Council on 31 October 2001 (S/PRST/2001/32), proposes measures to consolidate that progress, including detailed planning for an integrated United Nations mission that would be deployed in East Timor after independence.

II. Progress towards independence

3. A milestone on the road towards East Timor's independence was established when the Security Council, in its presidential statement of 31 October 2001 (S/PRST/2001/32), endorsed the proposal of the Constituent Assembly that independence be declared on 20 May 2002. This has not only provided a goal line by which a satisfactory level of progress should be achieved but also marks a new starting point, from which the international community and an independent East Timor will need to forge a new kind of partnership.

4. Over the past three months, important political advances were made, and steady gains achieved, in the complex task of establishing a public administration for East Timor. The security environment has continued to improve, and policies are being implemented that favour economic and social development. At the same time, the comparative fragility of the political foundations of this new country, its very limited pool of professional and administrative expertise, lack of strong independent security mechanisms and nascent state of economic development mean that East Timor will continue to require significant assistance from the international community well after independence, in order to ensure stability and realize the potential for progress that has been generated over the past two years.

A. Political developments

5. Since my last report, the Constituent Assembly has reviewed and approved most of the new draft Constitution. The four thematic committees of the Constituent Assembly held three weeks of public hearings from 19 October, which included submissions

02-21564 (E) 180102

by representatives of the government, civil society, the church, and experts from UNTAET and international organizations. The plenary of the Assembly began to debate the draft Constitution on 3 December. Its review process has been extended to 25 January 2002, five weeks beyond the original 90-day deadline. UNTAET, international and local non-governmental organizations and church representatives have monitored the proceedings. The United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights has also offered suggestions regarding Constitutional safeguards for human rights.

6. The draft Constitution under consideration by the Assembly would establish a unitary democratic state, based on the rule of law and the principle of separation of powers. Representative organs would be elected through direct and universal suffrage. The draft proposes a President, who would also be commander in chief of the Armed Forces, a Prime Minister, who would head a Council of Ministers, and a Parliament. The President's powers would be limited by Parliament, and the President would be required to consult the latter, as well as the Council of State and a Supreme Council on Defence and Security, before declaring a state of emergency or siege.

7. Pursuant to the Constituent Assembly's resolution in support of direct presidential elections, adopted on 28 November 2001, the Transitional Administrator announced that the election for East Timor's first President will take place in April 2002. Core staff of the Independent Electoral Commission, who remained in place after the 30 August 2001 election, undertook pre-planning for such elections, while continuing to strengthen East Timorese capacity.

8. The Assembly is also considering transforming itself into a legislative body, as originally recommended by the National Council in February 2001, in an arrangement whereby its 88 seats would be maintained for a first term, and later reduced to between 52 and 65. However, opposition parties and some civil society organizations have called for new legislative elections either concurrently with the presidential elections or soon after independence.

9. Political parties decreased their field activities after the 30 August 2001 election, to focus on the drafting of the Constitution. A number of opposition parties came under pressure from local senior political figures to lower their party flags and cease activities in the districts following the election. A supporter of the political opposition group CPD-RDTL was murdered in Baucau in late November, following clashes between martial arts groups.

10. The Council of Ministers continued to supervise the work of the East Timor Public Administration and took decisions on a wide range of matters. In particular, the Council approved the national budget, poverty reduction projects and credit schemes for low-income groups, as well as initiatives in public health, education, finance and the draft arrangements for the Joint Border Committee. In addition, the Council began a series of open meetings in each of the 13 districts, to promote direct contact between the Government and the population.

11. With regard to relations with Indonesia, the third meeting of the East Timor-Indonesia Joint Border Committee took place in Dili from 19 to 21 November 2001. As the first visit by an Indonesian delegation since the visit of former President Wahid in February 2000, this represented a significant step in building relations between the two neighbours. High-level talks are scheduled to be held in Indonesia at the end of February 2002. These discussions offer an opportunity to resolve key outstanding bilateral issues, including the return of cultural artifacts, archives and records, continued access of East Timorese students to Indonesian institutes of higher learning, a protocol on police cooperation, and arrangements on the establishment of postal links, on border crossings for customary purposes, and on regulated markets. In this connection, it has been agreed that a joint reconnaissance of the border will be undertaken in February 2002, with a view to establishing principles and techniques to delineate the border.

B. Development of the East Timorese Public Administration

12. The development of an effective professional administration is crucial to ensuring lasting stability in East Timor. The provision of resources and expertise by the international community has been, and will continue to be, essential for this process.

13. During the reporting period the East Timorese Public Administration continued to play an increasing role in running the daily affairs of the country. By the end of 2001, the East Timorese Public Administration had recruited 9,633 East Timorese civil servants,

representing 91.2 per cent of the total budgeted positions. The education and health sectors are the largest public service employers, representing almost two thirds of the approved civil service staffing. At the district level, national staff are taking responsibility for administrative tasks, as the bulk of international staff have withdrawn and those that remain are focused upon capacity-building and training.

14. The East Timorese are working to strengthen their administrative structures through, inter alia, the activities of an Inspector General's Office. An East Timorese Adviser on Equality, who reports directly to the Chief Minister, assumed her functions on 1 November 2001; the Office of the Adviser, which subsumed UNTAET's Gender Affairs Unit, will support the formulation and implementation of government policies on equality between women and men, develop appropriate strategies and methodologies, and promote coordination and cooperation on these issues within the central government and at the district level.

15. With regard to the collection of revenue, over 180 customs officers are now present in Dili, Oecussi and on the border with West Timor, providing customs, immigration and quarantine services, with a limited number of international staff continuing to provide on-the-job training. The first prosecution for tax offences is now before East Timorese courts and a system of monitoring tax exemptions for non-governmental organizations has been established. Over the past three months, East Timorese customs auditors were able to identify and recover some $340,000 in fines, penalties and revenue, an amount comparable to the current annual payroll budget for the Customs Service. The Customs Service collected $17 million in customs duties and taxes from March 2000 to December 2001.

Justice

16. There are still few experienced and trained East Timorese judges, public defenders and prosecutors, and support services for the courts remain limited. Courts and investigators are hampered by the difficulty in obtaining translations to and from English, Portuguese and the many local languages.

17. Nevertheless, a heavy workload is demanded of the various elements of the justice system. The Office of the Deputy Prosecutor for Ordinary Crimes continues to direct investigations into more than 480 criminal cases for offences committed since November 1999. District Courts delivered verdicts in 139 trials in 2001. The Legal Aid Service/Public Defenders Unit, which includes East Timorese public defenders in Baucau, Dili and Oecussi and two international mentors, provided legal advice to over 1,000 people in 2001. Clients included those in pre-trial detention, those facing ordinary and serious crimes charges, and disputants in family and land rights claims. The Service has also established teams to make regular visits to the prisons in Baucau, Dili and Gleno. However, public defenders still require intensive training, continuing legal education and technical support.

18. The prison population increased by nearly one third over the past six months, from 231 in July to 302 in mid-December 2001, reflecting a rise in criminal activity, particularly violence by delinquent groups. Additional staff were hired to permit 24-hour staffing of Gleno and Dili prisons, and training for prison staff continued.

Foreign affairs

19. During the reporting period, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation reached its full complement of personnel. Bilateral support permitted its staff to undertake a programme of diplomatic training and internships in foreign embassies. To date, 30 members of the Ministry have been trained in 14 countries.

20. The East Timorese Government took formal steps towards accession to a number of international instruments and organizations upon independence, including decisions to sign the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in South-East Asia, and to seek observer status in the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) and membership in the Community of Portuguese-Speaking Countries.

East Timor Defence Force

21. The first East Timor Defence Force infantry battalion was provisionally organized on 26 October 2001, at Metinaro in Dili district. On 15 January 2002, the unit moved into a base at Los Palos in Lautem district that was formerly used by the peacekeeping force, while work begins to develop a permanent facility in the vicinity of Baucau. After further training through June 2002, the battalion will begin operations

by assuming responsibility in the Lautem district. The maritime component of the Defence Force relocated to Port Hera, in Dili district, and formally received two Albatross-class patrol boats in January 2001. It is scheduled to become operational in the early part of 2002, but training will continue.

22. The progress that has been achieved in training is the result of effective and coordinated bilateral assistance. Such a level of support, together with extensive capital investment, will need to be maintained up to and beyond independence, in order to permit the gradual downsizing and ultimate withdrawal of United Nations peacekeepers.

East Timor Police Service

23. The United Nations civilian police (CivPol) continues to maintain law and order while training the East Timor Police Service. Peter Miller (Canada) assumed the functions of Civpol Commissioner in November 2001.

24. The East Timor Police Service has reached a current strength of 1,453 police officers, 126 of whom have been placed at command-level positions. A further 250 police cadets are undergoing training in the Police College in Dili. Donor countries have organized overseas and in-country training programmes, in areas ranging from criminal investigation and maritime policing to police management and crowd control. East Timor Police Service officers are working in middle management, administrative and investigative positions in the districts and sub-districts. A pilot project began in Manatuto district on 1 November 2001 in which Service officers undertake all police functions for one day every week, with monitoring and guidance from Civpol. Relations with the Indonesian police are being strengthened, with a protocol on communication between the two forces now in place and one on cross-border crimes cooperation under consideration.

25. However, the development of the East Timor Police Service continues to be constrained by the lack of resources. The current budget can only satisfy initial training, salary and deployment, however, and the Service suffers from a critical shortage of communications and transport resources. It also lacks the means to meet recurring costs for the maintenance of vehicles, weapons and other equipment and for the purchase of consumable items.

Public information

26. Public information has represented an important means of strengthening civic awareness and reducing political tensions. Following the August 2001 elections, Radio UNTAET and TVTL broadcast several hours of live debate from the Constituent Assembly daily, with reports and interviews in Tetum, Portuguese, English and Bahasa Indonesia. In October, a special refugee radio programme of Fondation Hirondelle (Switzerland) began daily Bahasa Indonesia language broadcasts on Radio UNTAET which is rebroadcast on the Indonesian State's radio network in West Timor, to provide accurate information to refugees on conditions in East Timor. A draft proposal for radio and television to operate as an independent broadcasting corporation has won significant backing from the new Government and from civil society, but will require support from donor nations and private foundations.

Independence celebrations

27. An array of events are being planned by a national steering committee to celebrate East Timor's independence, on the occasion of its formal declaration on 20 May 2002. These activities, which will include a music festival, a trade exposition and international sporting events, are intended to mark the historic nature of this occasion, and to highlight the identity and attributes of the new nation.

C. Creation of a stable security environment

Security

28. International security assistance to East Timor continues to play a crucial role in promoting local and regional stability.

29. Stability of the border with Indonesia is a key element of future security. Since my previous report to the Council (S/2001/983), there have been few sightings of militia along the Tactical Coordination Line (the informal boundary agreed to by UNTAET and the Indonesian armed forces pending formal demarcation of the border), but it is considered that hard-line militia may still pose a long-term threat. Furthermore, as indicated in my earlier report (see S/2001/983, para. 28), the presence of illegal markets in the vicinity of the Tactical Coordination Line is a source of increasing concern. While East Timorese

traders use these markets to avoid the taxes that would be levied on products imported legally, the involvement of suspected militias gives this a political and potentially criminal dimension. Smuggling on the seas off the north and south coasts has increased since the onset of the wet season.

30. Long-term stability along the border will require substantial progress in East Timor's discussions with Indonesia regarding a comprehensive border regime. These are likely to include issues relating to the special circumstances of the Oecussi enclave, which is expected to be covered by a special administrative and economic arrangement in the Constitution.

Refugee returns

31. Security in East Timor must also continue to be underpinned by a series of processes that together address the legacy of violence that was committed in 1999. These include the return of refugees, support for reconciliation, and effective prosecution of serious crimes.

32. The rate of refugee returns accelerated in spite of misinformation and continuing, if decreased, intimidation in the camps. Nearly 7,000 refugees returned to East Timor over that period, bringing returns in 2001 to 17,900, and total returns to 192,000. An estimated total of 60,000-75,000 refugees remain in camps in West Timor. While the majority of returnees continue to be accepted back into their communities, with few reported problems, individuals suspected of involvement with pro-autonomy militia or political groups continue to risk harassment. Continued monitoring and protection of returnees are needed to ensure a high rate of returns. In almost all districts, safe houses have been established to protect returnees rejected by their communities, although they are not widely used.

33. Border reconciliation meetings and visits to both East and West Timor increased, to encourage further returns. On 5 November 2001, Xanana Gusmão attended a major reconciliation meeting in Batugade, on the East Timor side of the border, between Manatuto and Aileu community leaders and refugees from those districts. Xanana's subsequent official visit to West Timor from 26-29 November, during which he met with key West Timor government and military officials, militia representatives, pro-autonomy leaders and refugees, was a further step towards building confidence between East Timor and the neighbouring Indonesian province, and should add to the present momentum towards reconciliation and refugee returns.

34. It appears that the most significant deterrents to further returns are now economic concerns, rather than security issues and militia intimidation.

35. Although the World Food Programme recently doubled the rice component of the reintegration package, increased levels of food aid and other assistance may be required to meet the needs of those returning to heavily depopulated areas. In November, the Indonesian Government started paying a repatriation incentive of 750,000 rupiahs ($75) per family, with a bonus of 250,000 rupiahs ($25) for returning before Christmas.

36. Additionally, the question of pension payments for East Timorese formerly employed by the Indonesian Government in its civil, military and police service, appears to be a factor in delaying the return of some 8,500 families. The United Nations is working towards the establishment of a special fund to compensate for loss of employment and/or pension benefits; significant donor support is required for this fund, which will benefit about 30,000 former civil servants, some 21,000 of whom have already returned to or remained in East Timor. The responsibility for coordinating these issues will be transferred to the East Timorese Administration prior to independence.

37. Local settlement activities in West Timor began in late November, with the building of housing units for some 6,500 of the East Timorese refugees wishing to remain in the area. In November 2001, the United Nations and the Indonesian Government launched a Joint Appeal which includes UNHCR/UNDP plans to support the Government of Indonesia in the local settlement of 3,010 refugee families in East Nusa Tengara, outside West Timor, through contributions towards housing and economic livelihood packages for refugees, and proportional support to host communities.

Commission for Reception, Truth and Reconciliation

38. Work continues towards the establishment of the Commission for Reception, Truth and Reconciliation, currently supported by an Interim Office based in Dili. National Commissioners were nominated by an independent panel in December 2001, following

several rounds of consultations with communities in all 13 districts in East Timor and with pro-autonomy supporters in West Timor. Candidates are now being reviewed for appointment as commissioners at the regional level, and premises are being selected for the establishment of six regional offices. However, further funding is urgently required if the Commission is to become operational; to date, only $1 million of the $3.8 million required for the Commission has been pledged, and only about one third of this has been received.

Serious crimes

39. Some progress has been made with the prosecution of serious crimes. The Office of the General Prosecutor, now headed by East Timorese officials, has to date filed 33 indictments charging 83 individuals with crimes committed between 1 January and 25 October 1999. These indictments include 11 charges of crimes against humanity. However, progress in the courts is slow, owing to limited human and financial resources, as noted above.

40. The selection and management of staffing and resources provided to the Serious Crimes Unit has been enhanced in order to meet key goals for 2002, and, as of January 2002, teams of investigators are being based in several districts, to promote greater efficiency and to create a closer relationship with the communities in which the investigations are undertaken. It is anticipated that, over the course of 2002, these changes should permit a significant increase in the number of indictments over and above the 10 priority cases of crimes against humanity which were identified. These tasks can be accomplished only with full funding of approved positions from assessed funds, as well as continued support by donors for additional specialized expertise and resources.

41. To date, the Special Panel for Serious Crimes of the Dili District Court has heard 15 cases. Three appeals are pending. Judgement was passed on 11 December 2001 in the "Los Palos case", concerning operations of the Tim Alfa militia in Lautem district in 1999; this was the first trial for crimes against humanity to take place in East Timor, and the first example worldwide of application of laws originally formulated for the International Criminal Court. Ten men received sentences ranging from 4 to 33 years for crimes of torture, murder, forced deportation and persecution. A second Special Panel for Serious Crimes began preliminary hearings in November 2001, but no additional trials can take place until additional international judges are identified and resources are found for the administrative support for the Special Panels.

42. The Indonesian Prosecutor General's Office and the Justice Ministry announced that 30 judges for the Ad Hoc Human Rights Court had been selected in October-November 2001. Furthermore, it has been reported that President Megawati has signed a decree appointing 18 of the 30 judges recommended by Komnas Ham/Supreme Court. I welcome these promising developments; the completion of this process is of key importance for the development of strong relations between East Timor and Indonesia.

43. Meanwhile, in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding signed in April 2000 between my Special Representative and the Indonesian Prosecutor General, a number of requests have been transmitted to the latter to question persons of interest and to receive documentary evidence, together with several arrest warrants issued in East Timor. However, no positive response has been received from the Indonesian authorities to date. The United Nations Committee against Torture, at its 27th session in November 2001, recommended that Indonesia fully cooperate with UNTAET by providing mutual assistance in investigations or court proceedings in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding signed in April 2000. It is urgent that this problem be resolved as a matter of priority to avoid this issue becoming a potential irritant between the two countries.

Internal security

44. The reported crime rate in East Timor remains low. However, there has been a rise in local security unofficial groups since the August election, some of which comprise elements of the former Falintil force that were not recruited into the new East Timor Defence Force. Students and youths staged a number of demonstrations concerning education and employment opportunities.

45. In order to address these problems, UNTAET is exploring regulatory options to curb unsanctioned security activities. In addition, the Administration is attempting to improve conditions for ex-Falintil members.

46. Domestic crime in East Timor is of special concern, with drastic increases in reports of violence against women and children. It is important that multisectoral interventions with a variety of social actors are undertaken to address this serious social problem. At the request of East Timorese authorities and communities, a series of workshops on domestic violence was launched in selected pilot areas of Baucau and Manatuto districts at the end of October, aimed at developing an understanding of the extent of the problem and seeking solutions in the local community.

D. Economic and social progress

47. The promotion of a peaceful environment both feeds into, and depends upon, viable economic development. While stable and democratic government and the rule of law favour prosperity, a strong economy can in turn generate civic commitment and social harmony. Requirements for economic progress include investment in systems of health and education, and in physical infrastructure; and support for key economic sectors, including careful development of natural resources while safeguarding the environment.

48. The growth of East Timor's gross domestic product is estimated at 18 per cent in 2001, with annual inflation estimated to be less than 3 per cent. Some uncertainty in the economy prior to the 30 August election has now been resolved and economic activity continues to expand. Following a low level of imports in July and August 2001, taxable imports rebounded in the months of September and October. However, overall, the economy in 2002 is expected to contract following the reduction in the international presence in East Timor, including by the United Nations.

49. During the Oslo Donors Conference, held on 11 and 12 December 2001, forward projections for external financing requirements in the three years after independence were presented. Participating countries stressed the need for fiscal prudence and for close attention to the issue of sustainability, as crucial to building upon the achievements to date.

50. The Planning Commission was established in September 2001 to develop a National Development Plan to orient core government activity and externally financed support after independence. The planning team is working closely with the Ministry of Finance as the medium-term fiscal framework is finalized to ensure that it is achievable within short-term financing constraints and sustainable over the longer term. The Commission is coordinating working groups in each sector, which have completed draft status reports, and it will carry out a countrywide consultation and finalize the National Development Plan by independence.

51. A detailed long-term financial strategy for public revenues and expenditures will be developed in the months prior to independence, after current uncertainties about petroleum developments in the Timor Sea have been resolved and the Government has considered expert legal and financial advice regarding the implications for East Timorese revenues. East Timor aims to achieve a growth rate of about 5-6 per cent over a 25-year period.

52. The single greatest obstacle to secure investment in the country is the lack of a workable long-term Land and Property Code which would accommodate claims dating from the Portuguese and Indonesian administrations in East Timor and traditional property rights.

1. Education

53. A functional system of basic education, accessible to all, is crucial for long-term development. Rehabilitation of the educational system has advanced rapidly. More than 240,000 primary and secondary students entered school in early October 2001 for the new academic year, under the instruction of nearly 6,000 teachers. Some 5,000 students are attending the National University of East Timor, which was re-opened in November 2000. More than 700 primary schools, 100 junior secondary schools, 40 pre-schools and 10 technical colleges are now functioning in East Timor. Of these, 530 schools — or more than 2,700 classrooms — have received basic rehabilitation, representing some 99 per cent of the school classrooms that were in need of such remedial action after the violence of September 1999. Particular priority is being given to students at the primary and secondary levels, who represent one third of the population; investment is also continuing in technical and vocational training. The focus should now turn to strengthening teacher training and the curriculum. A teacher training programme has been launched, including training both at the National University and on the job.

2. Health

54. With the gradual departure of international professionals, East Timorese health workers are taking on increased responsibilities at national and district levels. More than 800 national health staff have been employed, with a further 394 positions under recruitment. The Ministry of Health recruited 21 international doctors to support clinical services, and five district health management officers to build the capacity of the district health management teams. In 2002, the Health Department will focus on reinforcing basic services, and improving the referral system and the supply of secondary medical and surgical facilities.

3. Infrastructure

55. Progress continued in the restoration of public buildings and road and port repairs, drawing upon substantial support from the Trust Fund for East Timor and the Consolidated Fund for East Timor. Between October 2001 and January 2002, 5 government buildings were rehabilitated, 13 were under construction, 8 were put out to tender and 2 are in documentation.

56. Progress also continued towards the establishment of the port, airport and power authority as fully independent entities. At Comoro Airport in Dili, primary navigation aids were replaced, runway lighting installed, the airport terminal expanded, and security brought in line with international standards. An international tender was launched to select the provider of public sea transport between Dili and Oecussi. The restoration of navigational aids and improvements to the pier at Dili port were completed by November 2001.

57. The power supply in Dili improved markedly in late November. Although problems remain in the distribution line due to the rainy season, a steady power supply was achieved over Christmas and in the New Year for Dili and the districts. Consumers in the capital received bills in October; this generated a number of complaints and refusals to pay, particularly by Timorese customers who had not previously received bills. The Head of the Power Utility is planning a series of meetings with religious, community and traditional leaders to explain and discuss the electricity billing system, and a public information campaign to inform the general public is being developed.

58. Rehabilitation of 17 rural power stations, through bilateral assistance is expected to be completed by the end of February 2002. A further 14 rural power stations are in a tender-evaluation stage, and work is expected to start in March 2002.

59. Since my last report, a land dispute mediation programme has begun, and records have been completed for the identification of all public buildings in East Timor. Some $1.3 million in commercial rents for public properties throughout East Timor were collected during the period January to November 2001.

60. Through a community empowerment project, funds are disbursed through community elected councils to support community grants, as well as loans to support economic activities. These have enabled the construction of wells, installation of water piping, and construction of bridges and roads.

4. Development of natural resources

61. Over the past two months, East Timorese officials have reached an understanding with the petroleum companies operating in the Bayu-Undan field in the Joint Petroleum Development Area of the Timor Sea, on a gas and fiscal package that would allow the Bayu-Undan gas development in the Timor Sea to proceed. East Timor's Council of Ministers endorsed the understanding, which is now under consideration by the Australian Government. This agreement is an important opportunity for East Timor to derive significant benefit from its national resources; the revenue to East Timor from gas development of the Bayu-Undan field is expected to be over $1 billion over the 17-year life of the project. This is in addition to the considerable revenues expected from the liquids phase of the Bayu-Undan project, which is already proceeding.

62. The Government began a campaign to promote eco-tourism within the country, making use of audio-visual presentations and photographs, and emphasizing the principles of sustainability and protection of natural and cultural resources.

63. Technical environmental guidelines were published for extraction of construction materials, fuel and oil handling, hazardous waste management, and municipal waste management. An environmental impact assessment is required to regulate future inward investment and assess the potential environmental impact of tourism, the oil and gas industry, and mining.

5. Agriculture and fisheries

64. Agriculture continues to be the mainstay of the economy of East Timor for over 90 per cent of the population. The core objectives of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries are the restoration of productive assets, rehabilitation of dilapidated irrigation schemes, provision of simple agricultural hand tools to farmers, vaccination campaigns of livestock, improvement of fishing activities, and forestry. Crucial bilateral contributions in this sector include technology to assist the Ministry in developing information and high-quality maps on land use and land use potential, agricultural production and trends, as well as fishing gear valued at $3 million, including 300 outboard engines.

65. With regard to pisciculture and commercial fishing, two national fish hatcheries are being restored and local fish supplies, which have doubled since last year, are expected to return to the 1998 level by mid-2002. To ensure that inshore resources are not over-exploited there is a need to expand offshore into East Timor's Exclusive Economic Zone where at present Indonesian flagged vessels fish; negotiations regarding the maritime boundaries between Indonesia and East Timor are expected to begin in the coming months. A four-hectare section of the national fishing harbour at Hera in Dili has been restored to accommodate an ice-works and an offshore fishing fleet, which will be established through a TFET grant. Appropriate fishery regulations and management plans, to be developed with bilateral assistance, will provide a framework for rapidly expanding coastal fisheries and offshore investment, based on the National Fisheries Strategic Plan and scientific information.

6. Preparing for downsizing of UNTAET

66. As indicated in my previous report (S/2002/983), the continuing downsizing of UNTAET will have a significant impact upon the local economy. The Planning Commission completed its assessment of the scale, timing and economic effect of the international drawdown, and recommended a series of measures to limit that impact. These include an information strategy directed towards local United Nations employees, the speedy establishment of a legal framework to support the private sector, improved access to information about skilled vacancies and a short-term job creation programme.

III. Successor mission

A. Transition to an independent government

67. As reflected above, while significant progress has been made, much remains to be done before the objectives originally identified by the Security Council can be achieved. This will require continued presence of a peacekeeping operation both before and after independence, although its components will be reconfigured to reflect new political and security realities; the mission is now being reshaped to better respond to the tasks that may be entrusted to the United Nations after independence.

68. Several elements are key to a smooth transition: the phased drawdown of international staff; the incorporation within government of essential common services and the transfer of United Nations assets supporting those services; the transfer of some residual functions of government from UNTAET; the development of the essential legislative and procedural machinery for the operation of government at independence; and the timely recruitment of civilian advisers for the post-independence government. In this context, I welcomed the Security Council's endorsement of my recommendations for a continued and appropriately reduced United Nations integrated mission in the post-independence period (S/PRST/2001/32). Timely action by the Council is and will continue to be essential to ensure that early planning and preparations bear fruit, and the United Nations position itself for a smooth and seamless transition to a post-independence role.

69. Steady progress has been made in the adjustment of UNTAET's size and configuration to reflect more closely the post-independence role of the United Nations, as endorsed by the Security Council (see S/PRST/2001/32 of 31 October).

70. In November, the stable security environment enabled UNTAET to commence a reduction of its military component that will see at the time of independence a United Nations peacekeeping force of some 5,000 troops. The current strength of UNTAET is 7,212 troops, more than 1,700 under its authorized deployment of 8,950. As downsizing has progressed, the peacekeeping force has been reconfigured to enable it to continue to promote stability both along the border and internally throughout East Timor. The contingents

previously based in Ermera and Manatuto have been repatriated, and military duties in these districts are now carried out by the contingent based in Dili. By the end of January 2002, the battalion now based in Lautem will take over duties in Oecussi, and the battalion currently based in Baucau will extend its current operations to cover Lautem. By May 2002, a single engineering group is expected to assume the responsibilities of two engineer battalions now in the mission area. Similarly, CivPol are now deployed at a strength of 1,273 officers, and will be reduced further to 1,250 by independence.

71. UNTAET is working together with the East Timorese Public Administration to ensure that immediately upon independence the Government concludes with the United Nations a status-of-forces agreement which addresses the role of the military component and its relationship with the East Timor Defence Force. The latter is of critical importance, given that the Defence Force will be under the command and control of the Government. Similar legal arrangements will also need to be agreed and implemented with regard to the performance of police functions by CivPol and East Timor Police Service.

72. Reduction of civilian staffing assisting the East Timorese Public Administration is under way, while bearing in mind the need to avoid serious disruption to basic government services and to the task of establishing an effective administration. In November, the Ministers of the East Timor public administration were asked to prepare phased downsizing plans for their international establishment; by mid-January, the plans were largely complete and implementation was well under way. When the downsizing is completed, approximately 200 international staff and 60 United Nations Volunteers will remain in place until the date of independence, representing a 75 per cent reduction from the original authorized strength of this component.

73. Senior officials in the East Timorese Public Administration are assessing how the Administration can assume responsibility for a number of residual functions of government that are still being discharged by UNTAET. These include the provision of legal advice and drafting, defence policy and operations, police policy and operations, public broadcasting and electoral planning. Similarly, the Administration will have to consider how it can assume responsibility for any new institutions and functions of government, both judicial and executive, that emerge from the Constitution once that has been finalized.

74. Building an effective administration has involved the development not only of core functions of government, but also of essential common services that underpin the operations of government. The East Timorese Public Administration is gradually developing and taking on the responsibility for these services but is hampered by its limited infrastructure and the shortage of technical expertise. It remains reliant on UNTAET for services such as telecommunications and registry, while services such as hardware and software support for its computers are only weakly developed.

75. The East Timor Administration remains reliant on UNTAET assets in order to operate at a basic level. The international community will need to explore how it can help to address these requirements after independence to ensure that the Administration's capacity is not so diminished as to create instability.

B. Plan for the successor mission

76. The plan for the successor mission provides for a continued and appropriately reduced United Nations peacekeeping mission in the post-independence period, necessary to ensure the stability of East Timor, as outlined in previous reports (S/2001/719, paras. 52-60; and S/2001/983, paras. 59-80). The mission would comprise a military component, a civilian police component, and a small civilian component, which would include a group of civilian experts that would provide crucial assistance to the emergent East Timorese Administration. In addition, the mission would include substantive civilian staff to support my Special Representative; to assist in serious crimes investigations and proceedings and national reconciliation efforts; and to ensure human rights mainstreaming throughout the work of the mission.

77. According to the guiding principle identified by the Security Council in its presidential statement (S/PRST/2001/32), the successor mission would ensure that all operational responsibilities are fully devolved to the East Timorese authorities as soon as is feasible without jeopardizing stability and progress made, in the context of a continuing process of assessment and downsizing over a period of two years starting from independence.

78. In order to ensure a coordinated approach to planning, as endorsed by the Security Council, at Headquarters, planning continues to draw upon consultation within the Integrated Mission Task Force. In the field, my Special Representative has established integrated planning teams for the military and police components in the field, which include East Timorese and United Nations military, police and civilian personnel. Planning for the civilian component continues to take place in the Transition Team Core Group. A proposed framework for the successor mission to UNTAET is attached.

1. Support to the post-independence public administration

79. The need for assured funding for some 100 key functions within the administration (S/2001/983), for periods ranging from 12 to 24 months after independence, was confirmed by a skills audit by UNDP, which was completed in late-October 2001. The functional requirements specified by UNDP as vital to the viability of government, political stability, and basic service provision largely correspond to those that were identified by UNTAET's earlier planning exercise, and subsequent refinements by the East Timorese Ministers have been minor.

80. Based upon extensive and ongoing consultations with donors and with other relevant actors, it has been determined that the only way that these needs can be met on an assured basis is through their inclusion in the assessed funding of the successor mission. If it becomes clear that donors are prepared to make specific guarantees to meet these key needs for up to two years as required through bilateral funding or other arrangements, planning for the successor mission would be adjusted accordingly.

81. These functions fall within four main areas of government administration: 42 per cent cover financial institutions, in the areas of treasury, revenue service, budget, public banking, administration, customs, and central government services; 14 per cent are placed within the legal system, in the areas of the judiciary, clerks of court, public defence, legislative assembly and legal reform, public prosecution, finance and administration, registry and notary, land and property and prisons; 27 per cent are in internal systems, in the areas of the Council of Minister's secretariat, Chief Minister's office, Ministry of Internal Administration, Inspector General's office, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Planning, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Finance, and Ministry of Labour and Social Services; and 17 per cent are in essential services in the areas of water and sanitation, power, roads, housing, ports, and health.

82. UNTAET, UNDP and the East Timorese Ministries are now finalizing detailed job descriptions. These positions will be advertised in the second half of January or the beginning of February, with the caveat that their establishment will depend upon the General Assembly's approval (A/56/685, para. 15), to permit the selection and recruitment of personnel prior to the commencement of the successor mission. Selection criteria will focus on the candidates' expertise, experience relevant to developing countries and the ability to transfer knowledge.

83. UNTAET and UNDP have prepared a concept for the management structure, which would seek to ensure ownership by the East Timorese Government, while taking into account the need for accountability by the United Nations for the use of assessed funding.

84. The East Timorese Government will also require international assistance in support of social and economic development and poverty reduction. The ongoing UNDP study has identified approximately 200 such functions as crucial to the effectiveness of the new State (as opposed to UNTAET's preliminary estimate of 135). Voluntary or bilateral arrangements are being sought to meet this requirement.

85. To ensure the division of responsibility among principal players who will assist East Timor in the areas of social and economic development and poverty reduction, UNTAET has been consulting with the United Nations agencies in East Timor to ascertain what kind of assistance they can provide. In addition, my Special Representative recently wrote to all heads of relevant United Nations system entities, seeking their support in principle to help fill the 200 civilian technical assistance posts, which are also being circulated to Member States.

2. Military component

86. The role of the successor mission's military component will be to provide continued support for the external security and territorial integrity of East Timor, while handing over its responsibilities to the East Timor Defence Force and relevant public administration departments in a timely and coordinated

manner. In coordination with other mission components, it will continue to facilitate negotiations on border delimitation that are integral to the development of national structures and policies for border security and control.

87. The military component would include a two-battalion group, with a sector headquarters, in the western sector. The Oecussi enclave would retain a battalion group. In the rest of East Timor (former central and eastern sectors) the military component would consist of one mobile battalion and one light infantry battalion. In the border area, the force would continue to take measures to deter unlawful armed groups and ensure security, pending the full development of an East Timorese border security and control capability. The force would also provide security for United Nations personnel and property.

88. Further reductions of the military component are envisaged over two broad stages. The first stage could begin once normalization of the border activity is achieved. This will require that two conditions be met: agreement between the Government of Indonesia and the Government of East Timor on the location of the border and its subsequent demarcation; and the establishment of an adequate national border security and control system. These conditions could permit withdrawal of the military component from the immediate vicinity of the border, constituting a reduction to a two-battalion force of 2,500-3,000 troops.

89. Under the current plan for the development of the East Timor Defence Force, it is envisaged that its second battalion would be operational by late 2003. However, this schedule could potentially be accelerated, depending upon provision of funds by donors for necessary capital investments. Complete withdrawal of the military component would take place when the ETDF becomes fully capable of responding to external threats.

90. At the time of independence, the military component will also include 120 military observers, whose number may vary slightly during some stages of the downsizing of the rest of the military component, to maintain a capability to monitor the security situation.

3. Civilian police component

91. As reported in October 2001, the civilian police component, led by an international police commissioner, will continue to provide executive policing and to support the development of the East Timor Police Service through the transfer of skills and timely and coordinated handover of responsibilities. At the time of independence, it is expected that approximately 1,800 officers will be serving in the East Timor Police Service.

92. Current planning for the development of the East Timor Police Service envisions that it may ultimately comprise 2,600 officers, including 180 officers with specialized training in crowd management. Should the Service be given the responsibility for border security, an additional border service component of 200 officers would be created. East Timorese officers would be co-located with international CivPol, who would provide on-the-job training.

93. As East Timorese officers are certified and their district or specialized unit meets the standards for accreditation, executive responsibility would be transferred on a case-by-case basis, and the role of the corresponding international police would revert to a technical advisory function. A timetable for this process has been developed, based upon a survey of population distribution, crime statistics, complexity of tasks to be performed, and the level of training of East Timorese officers; the first such handover of responsibility is planned to take place in May 2002. It is projected that all specialized units, districts and headquarters will have met the certification and accreditation requirements by January 2004. Until that time, the international civilian police and the East Timor Police Service would perform as a joint police force, under the common command and control of my Special Representative.

94. Subject to the timely achievement of certification targets, it is projected that the civilian police strength will be reduced by an average of 5 per cent every month, leaving about 100 officers by January 2004, who would have purely advisory functions.

IV. Financial aspects

95. The General Assembly, in its resolution 56/249 of 24 December 2001, appropriated the amount of $458 million gross for the operation of UNTAET for the period from 1 July 2001 to 30 June 2002, at the monthly rate of $20 million gross for the period from 1 January to 30 June 2002. Should the Council decide to

extend the mandate of the Transitional Administration, as recommended in paragraph 104 below, the cost of maintaining UNTAET will be limited to the monthly rate approved by the General Assembly.

96. My proposal for the disposition of UNTAET's assets is currently under preparation. The proposals will take into account the criteria and guidelines approved by the General Assembly and would include any transfers of surplus assets to the East Timorese Government. I intend to submit this report to the General Assembly for its consideration at the second part of its resumed fifty-sixth session.

97. As at 15 December 2001, unpaid assessments to the Special Account for UNTAET for the period since its inception from 31 December 2001 amounted to $211.8 million. The total outstanding assessed contributions for all peacekeeping operations amounted to $1,979.1 million.

V. Observations and recommendations

98. The United Nations engagement in East Timor has been predicated on the need to ensure the success of the new State by maintaining security, and by building a sustainable administrative and economic base. As the day of independence draws near, the people of East Timor and the international community have much to be proud of in all that has been accomplished to date — in laying the political foundations for a new State, in providing the elements of the practical machinery that it requires, in successfully addressing challenges to security and in setting out the basis for economic development.

99. But at a time when new demands arise before the international community, it is essential that its commitment be met in full, and that the tasks which have been so well advanced be brought to fruition. Close partnership between East Timor and the international community will remain essential for the continued stability and development of the country.

100. Throughout the United Nations engagement in East Timor, the international community's efforts to promote peace have been predicated upon the interlinked nature of the requirements for stability. Efforts to promote political reconciliation and address security risks were complemented by wide-ranging support for the fragile new administrative structures and assistance with development for appropriate economic and social policies.

101. This kind of wide-ranging approach will be equally essential in the period after independence. Mindful of the principles identified in my report entitled "No exit without strategy: Security Council decision-making and the closure or transition of United Nations peacekeeping operations" (S/2001/394) and endorsed by the Security Council, it is important that international assistance to East Timor revert to a normal development model as soon as feasible. In this context, it will be essential that all elements of the United Nations system work in a coordinated manner, together with bilateral assistance, if the people and Government of East Timor are to realize their aspirations for full independence. In this connection, it should be recalled that a consolidated list of capacity-building requirements for which bilateral assistance is essential has been compiled for consideration by Member States.

102. It is clearly essential to the democratic development of the state that the East Timor Defence Force be properly funded and that its operations be sustainable under the budget of the new administration. The development of the East Timor Defence Force and the East Timor Police Service, which will enable the disengagement of the United Nations military component and civilian police component without in itself creating instability, will not occur unless Member States support an adequate and sustainable capital programme to equip both organizations.

103. The development of East Timor's economy will demand ongoing partnership between the Government, the international community and the private sector. In this regard, I would like to encourage the business community, both large multinational corporations and small companies, to consider investing in this country as it assumes its independence, and to help to build a market of the future.

104. Bearing in mind the calendar of transition and the changes that independence will bring, I recommend that the Security Council at this stage extend the UNTAET mandate until the date of independence, that is, until 20 May 2002. I intend to re[illegible] prior to that date to offer to the Security Council further specific proposals for the mandate and structure for a follow-on peacekeeping operation after independence.

105. Finally, I wish to express my deep appreciation to the Member States that have provided unwavering support to this mission. I also wish to pay a warm tribute to Mr. Vieira de Mello, my Special Representative, and to all the men and women of UNTAET and its partner organizations. The United Nations has cause to be proud of what they have accomplished.

Annex

Proposed framework for the successor mission to UNTAET

Goal

The successor mission will provide assistance that is crucial for the stability of East Timor and the viability of its emergent public administration, assist in the development of law enforcement agencies in East Timor operating in accordance with international human rights standards; and contribute to the maintenance of external and internal security.

Operational principles

- Timely transfer. All operational responsibilities will be fully devolved to the sovereign East Timorese authorities as quickly as possible, while ensuring the strengthening of stability and progress made so far.
- Mainstreaming human rights. Human rights, with particular consideration for gender and vulnerable persons issues, will form an integral part of all programmes. The mission will provide human rights training, advise the Government on the human rights situation and on effective mechanisms to guarantee full respect for human rights.

Implementation

The mandate will be implemented through three programmes each containing several objectives:

I. Stability, democracy and justice

I.1 Provide international civilian assistance for core functions in public administration, particularly in the areas of finance, banking and justice, which are crucial to the political stability and democratic functioning of government in the immediate post-independence period.

I.2 Assist the East Timorese police and judiciary in the conduct of serious crimes investigations and proceedings.

II. Internal security and law enforcement

II.1 Support the development of the East Timor Police Service, ensuring transfer of skills and timely handover of responsibilities, documentation and assets from CivPol to East Timor Police Service and relevant public administration departments.

II.2 Provide executive policing in cooperation with the East Timorese police and relevant public administration departments.

III. External security

III.1 Provide continued support for external security and territorial integrity of East Timor, and ensure timely handover of responsibilities from the military component to the East Timor Defence Force and relevant public administration departments.

III.2 Assist in the development of national border security and control structures and policies, including facilitation of negotiations with neighbouring countries on border delimitation.

Timeline

The mission is expected to achieve its core mandate in around two years provided the fundamental conditions for implementation continue to prevail.

United Nations S/2002/80/Corr.1

Security Council

Distr.: General
23 January 2002

Original: English

Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor

For the period from 16 October 2001 to 18 January 2002

Corrigendum

Paragraph 7

The first sentence *should read*

Pursuant to the Constituent Assembly's resolution in support of direct presidential elections, adopted on 28 November 2001, the Transitional Administrator announced that the election for East Timor's first President will take place on 14 April 2002.

02-22865 (E) 230102

United Nations S/2002/81

Security Council

Distr.: General
18 January 2002

Original: English

Letter dated 18 January 2002 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to request that, in accordance with its previous practice, the Security Council invite the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations to participate in the meeting of the Security Council to be held today, Friday, 18 January 2002, on the agenda item entitled "Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts".

(*Signed*) Dr. Nasser **Al-Kidwa**
Ambassador, Permanent Observer of Palestine
to the United Nations

02-21921 (E) 180102

United Nations A/56/779–S/2002/82

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
18 January 2002

Original: English

General Assembly
Fifty-sixth session
Agenda items 10, 20, 21 (d), 25, 41, 42, 43, 48, 49, 52, 55, 58, 62, 71, 77, 87, 88, 101, 118 and 166

Security Council
Fifty-seventh year

Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization

Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance

Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations: cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference

United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations

Question of Palestine

The situation in the Middle East

The situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security

Causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa

Question of equitable representation on and increase in the membership of the Security Council and related matters

Declaration of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity on the aerial and naval military attack against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya by the present United States Administration in April 1986

Implementation of the resolutions of the United Nations

United Nations reform: measures and proposals

Question of Cyprus

Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East

02-22646 (E) 280102

The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East

United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East

Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories

Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources

Right of peoples to self-determination

Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Letter dated 17 January 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Mali to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour, in my capacity as Chairman of the Islamic Group, to transmit herewith the text of the final communiqué adopted at the Annual Coordination Meeting of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the member States of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, held at the United Nations Headquarters on 15 November 2001 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the fifty sixth session of the General Assembly under agenda items 10, 20, 21 (d), 25, 41, 42, 43, 48, 49, 52, 55, 58, 62, 71, 77, 87, 88, 101, 118 and 166, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Moctar **Ouane**
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative of the Republic of Mali to
the United Nations

[Original: Arabic, English and French]

Annex to the letter dated 17 January 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Mali to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Final communiqué of the Annual Coordination Meeting of Foreign Ministers of the Member States of the Organization of the Islamic Conference

United Nations –New York
30 Shaa'ban 1422H
15 November 2001

1. The Annual Coordination Meeting of Foreign Ministers of the OIC Member States, was convened on 30 Shaa'ban 1422H (15 November 2001) at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, under the Chairmanship of His Excellency Mr. Modibo Sidibe, Foreign Minister of the Republic of Mali, Chairman of the 28th Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers.

2. The Meeting was addressed by His Excellency Ambassador Lakhdar Brahimi ,United Nations Secretary -General's Special Representative for Afghanistan, on behalf of the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

The issue of international terrorism:

3. The Meeting reiterated the commitment of all Member States to the Final Communiqué issued by the Ninth Extraordinary Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, held in Doha, State of Qatar, on 10 October 2001, on the issue of international terrorism, and strongly condemned the terrorist acts in New York and Washington. It reaffirmed that these acts ran counter to the teachings of all divine religions, including Islam, as well as the commonly held ethical and human values. It further reaffirmed the necessity of tracking down the perpetrators of these acts on the basis of reliable investigations, and of bringing them to justice. This would be consistent with the principles of Islam which spurns aggression, calls for peace, coexistence, tolerance and respect among peoples, upholds the dignity of human life, and prohibits killing of the innocent.

4. The Meeting, on the basis of the relevant provisions of the OIC Convention on Combating International Terrorism, reaffirmed the willingness of its Member States to: effectively contribute to an international collective effort under the auspices of the United Nations; define terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, without the exercise of selectivity or double standards; and address its causes, eradicate its roots and achieve international security and stability, distinguishing clearly between terrorism and legitimate struggle against foreign occupation.

5. The Meeting noted with appreciation the determined efforts of the Government of the United States, and of some other countries towards safeguarding the interests of all persons of Islamic descent, and protecting them from all forms of xenophobia and stereotyping, and called upon States and the international community to undertake similar measures to protect innocent persons from any harm resulting from preventive measures in the fight against terrorism.

6. The Meeting reaffirmed the need to convene an international conference under the auspices of the United Nations to reflect the rejection, by the international community, of the use of terrorism in international relations; to agree on its definition; and to draw up an international plan to fight terrorism in accordance with international law, and with full respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Member States. The meeting rejected the targeting of any OIC Member State under the pretext of fighting against terrorism.

7. The Meeting stressed that peoples' struggle, including armed struggle against foreign occupation, aggression, colonialism, and hegemony, aimed at liberation and self-determination, in accordance with the principles of international law, shall not be considered a terrorist crime.

<u>The question of Palestine , Al-Quds Al-Sharif, and the Arab-Israeli conflict</u>

8. The Meeting reiterated its unwavering support for the Palestinian people and the realization of their inalienable rights, including the establishment of their own independent state with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its capital. The Meeting reaffirmed the centrality of the issue of Al-Quds Al-Sharif to the entire Islamic Ummah, and stressed the absolute necessity for regaining Palestinian sovereignty over Al-Haram Al-Sharif and other Islamic and Christian sites of the city.

9. The Meeting expressed grave concern at the continuation of the Israeli bloody military campaign against the Palestinian people, which began on 28 September 2000. The Meeting condemned the excessive use of force by Israel, the occupying Power, resulting in extensive loss of Palestinian life, injuries, and widespread destruction of Palestinian homes and property. The Meeting also condemned other Israeli measures and practices, such as the imposition of closures, extra-judicial killings, the reoccupation of areas under full Palestinian control, and the continuation of colonial activities in the form of building and expanding illegal settlements in violation of the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949.

10. The Meeting reaffirmed its support for a peaceful solution of the question of Palestine, the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict and ,the establishment of a comprehensive and lasting peace in the Middle East. The Meeting stressed the need for fresh and qualitative efforts to bring the Middle East peace process back to life and to take it to its successful conclusion on its agreed basis- Security Council resolutions 242(1967) and 338 (1973) and the principle of land for peace. The Meeting, in this regard, reaffirmed the absolute necessity for ending the Israeli occupation of all Palestinian Territory, including Al-Quds Al-Sharif.

11. The Meeting stressed the permanent responsibility of the United Nations towards the question of Palestine, and in this regard, stressed also the responsibility of the Security Council, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations. The Meeting reiterated its support for resolutions and initiatives related to the question of Palestine at the United Nations. The Meeting expressed appreciation for the efforts of the OIC Committee on Palestine at the United Nations, and the Al-Quds Committee, for its valuable work on this central issue.

12. The Meeting condemned Israel's policy of refusal to comply with Security Council resolution no.497 of 1981, the imposition of its laws, jurisdiction and administration over the occupied Syrian Golan, as well as its policy of annexation, establishment of colonial settlements, land confiscation, diverting water resources and imposing Israeli nationality on Syrian citizens of the occupied Golan. The Meeting also underlined that all such measures are null and void and constitute a blatant violation of the principles of international law, and in particular the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949; and demanded that Israel withdraw fully from the occupied Syrian Golan to the line of June 4, 1967. The Meeting reiterated its support for the Middle East peace process according to the Madrid terms of reference, based on the United Nations Security Council resolutions 242(1967), 338(1973), and land for peace principle.

13. The Meeting called for an end to the continuing Israeli violations of Lebanese sovereignty and territorial integrity, and reaffirmed the absolute necessity for the immediate Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Lebanese Shab'a farmlands. Furthermore, the Meeting demanded that Israel release the Lebanese detainees in Israeli jails, and expressed support for maintaining the present mandate of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), and for providing assistance in the demining activities in South Lebanon.

14. The Meeting urged the international community and the Security Council to compel Israel to abide by United Nations resolutions, specially Security Council resolution no. 487 of 1981; insist that it joins the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, and implements the resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly and of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), according to which all Israeli nuclear installations must be subjected to the Agency's system of comprehensive guarantees; and request that Israel publicly renounce nuclear armaments , and submits a complete statement on its capabilities and reserves in terms of nuclear arms and substances to both the Security Council and the IAEA, as a pre-requisite to the creation of an area free of weapons of mass destruction, foremost among which are the nuclear ones, in the Middle East and the establishment of a comprehensive and just peace in the region.

The situation in Afghanistan

15. The Meeting reviewed the current situation in Afghanistan and urged the need for an early end to the conflict. In this regard, the Meeting expressed its grave concern over the recent deaths of innocent civilians in Afghanistan. The Meeting supported the establishment of a broad based, multi-ethnic government in Afghanistan, representative of the wishes of Afghan people, which should abide by the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter. The Meeting also reiterated the need for ensuring the unity, territorial integrity and Islamic identity of Afghanistan.

16. The Meeting expressed its deep concern over the worsening humanitarian situation in Afghanistan and urged the international community to respond urgently and generously to the repeated calls for assistance for alleviating the plight of the Afghan people, both inside Afghanistan and in other countries, in particular the neighboring countries. In this regard it recognized and appreciated the role of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and the Islamic Republic of Iran in providing shelter to millions of Afghan refugees and stressed that specific assistance to these countries was needed.

17. The Meeting welcomed the resolution adopted by the Ninth Extraordinary Session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers held in Doha, on 10 of October 2001, related to the establishment of an OIC fund for the provision of humanitarian assistance for the Afghan people, and urged the need for evolving a comprehensive post-conflict rehabilitation and reconstruction plan for Afghanistan.

18. The Meeting welcomed the appointment of Ambassador Lakhdar Brahimi as the United Nations Secretary-General's Special Representative for Afghanistan, and resolved to extend full support and cooperation of the Member States and of the OIC General Secretariat to Ambassador Brahimi in the fulfillment of his mission.

Jammu and Kashmir dispute

19. On the question of Jammu and Kashmir, the Meeting reiterated the position adopted at the Twenty-eighth session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers held in Bamako, Republic of Mali from 25 to 27 June 2001, reaffirming its support for the right of the people of Jammu and Kashmir to self determination, in accordance with the relevant United Nations resolutions. The Meeting also appreciated the initiative taken by the Islamic Republic of Pakistan for a serious and result-oriented dialogue with India with a view to resolving all outstanding disputes, in particular the core issue of Jammu and Kashmir. In this regard, while welcoming the summit level talks between Pakistan and India at Agra in July 2001, the Meeting expressed the hope that the talks will be resumed soon for a just and equitable solution of the Jammu and Kashmir dispute in accordance with Security Council resolutions.

20. The Meeting was addressed by the True Representatives of Jammu and Kashmir. It took note of the memorandum submitted by the True Representatives of the People of Jammu and Kashmir.

The aggression of the Republic of Armenia against the Republic of Azerbaijan

21. The Meeting reiterated its condemnation of the aggression of the Republic of Armenia against the Republic of Azerbaijan, which constitutes a blatant violation of the United Nations Charter and international law ensuring the Republic of Azerbaijan's rights to national sovereignty and territorial integrity. It called for total withdrawal of the occupation forces of the Republic of Armenia from all the occupied Azerbaijani territories in accordance with the United Nations Security Council resolutions 822,853,874 and 884 of 1993. It also invited the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) to implement its own decisions as adopted at the Budapest and Lisbon Summits (1994 and 1996,respectively) in accordance with the principles enshrined therein, aimed at peaceful resolution of the Armenian-Azerbaijani conflict.

The situation in Sierra Leone

22. The Meeting reiterated its support to the Government of Sierra Leone in its efforts to reestablish its authority over all its territories. It welcomed the first visit of the OIC Contact Group on Sierra Leone to Freetown, from 22 to 24 August 2001, to assess the situation in the country, and to determine the contribution from the OIC, in pursuant of OIC resolution no. 51/27-P. In this regard, the Meeting agreed to the need to support the implementation of the Lomé Agreement by providing assistance to the Government of Sierra Leone in order to conduct the democratic elections scheduled in 2001; the provision of necessary assistance to neighboring countries faced with the influx of refugees; promoting investment by both the public and private sectors of Member States so as to take advantage of the potentials that exist in Sierra Leone, and requested the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) to consider financing and undertaking a feasibility study on macroeconomic planning in Sierra Leone. The Meeting also agreed to the establishment of a trust fund to assist the Government of Sierra Leone in the reconstruction and rehabilitation of the country. It expressed its appreciation to the members of the OIC Contact Group on Sierra Leone on the work conducted thus far.

The situation in Cyprus

23. The Meeting expressed its firm support for the rightful cause of the Turkish Muslim people of Cyprus, and reaffirmed its resolutions and declarations on Cyprus. It called for a just and negotiated settlement that would respect their legitimate aspirations. It emphasized the key importance of respect of the principle of equal political status in promoting a negotiated settlement acceptable to both the Turkish Cypriot and Greek Cypriot sides, and to this effect it called on the two sides to reciprocally acknowledge each other's equal status in order to pave the way for a lasting solution. In this respect it welcomed the statement made by the United Nations Secretary-General on 12 September 2000 (SG/SM/7546) at the outset of the fourth round of proximity talks.

24. The Meeting was addressed by the Representative of the Turkish Muslim Community of Cyprus.

The situation in Somalia

25. The Meeting reaffirmed its respect for the unity, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Somalia. It also reiterated its support for the Arta Process as the only viable option towards peace and national reconciliation in Somalia. In this regard, the Meeting stated its continued support for the Transitional National Government of Somalia. It reaffirmed its condemnation of the warlords who continue to be an obstacle to peace and national reconciliation in Somalia. The Meeting commended the efforts exerted by the Organization of the Islamic Conference, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), and the League of Arab States, as well as friendly States to resolve the Somali issue, and urged the countries of the Sub-region to play a constructive role and refrain from interference in the internal affairs of Somalia. It also urged the OIC Contact Group on Somalia to continue to raise urgently the financial resources needed for peace, reconstruction and rehabilitation of Somalia.

The United States armed aggression on Al-Shifa pharmaceutical plant in Khartoum

26. The Meeting expressed it's full support for the Republic of the Sudan to set up an international committee of inquiry under the auspices of the Security Council to investigate United States allegations concerning the production by the Al-Shifa pharmaceutical plant of toxic chemical gases. It called again on the Government of the United States of America to respond positively to the Sudan's request. It asserted its solidarity with the Sudan in confronting hostile designs led by the United States against its security and national unity.

United States aggression against the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya

27. The Meeting reaffirmed its solidarity with the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and its support for its right to claim compensation for damages sustained as a result of the United States aggression of 1986 in accordance with resolution 41\38 of 20 November 1986 of the United Nations General Assembly. It renewed its call on the United States to abide by this resolution and resort to peaceful means in order to settle its differences with the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya.

Final lifting of sanctions on Libya

28. The Meeting called on the United Nations Security Council to immediately and definitely lift sanctions imposed on the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya now that it has complied with the requirements stipulated in the Security Council resolutions in this respect. It regretted the condemnation of one of the two Libyan citizens, and called on international public opinion to denounce the political motives that led to imposing, on the Libyan citizen Abdulbaset Al-Mugrahi, a verdict which legal experts have criticized for several legal flaws, and called for his release. It reaffirmed the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya's right to compensation for the damage it has suffered as a result of the sanctions imposed on it.

Solidarity with Iran and Libya against D'Amato Amendment

29. The Meeting reaffirmed its solidarity with the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya in their stand against the so-called D'Amato Amendment. It reiterated its rejection of all arbitrary or unilateral measures of political or legal character undertaken by any State, and called upon all countries to consider this law contrary to the norms of international law and consequently null and void.

Unilateral economic sanctions

30. The Meeting called on all the States that impose unilateral sanctions on OIC Member States to desist from such practices in view of their contradiction with the principles of international law and the United Nations Charter. It expressed solidarity with the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Republic of the Sudan, and other States suffering under unilateral economic sanctions.

The Situation in the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros

31. The Meeting affirmed its support to the efforts of the Government of Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros aimed at achieving national reconciliation. It welcomed the positive development in the situation in the Republic of the Comoros, and expressed its satisfaction to the project of the constitution aimed at establishing a new entity in the Comoros which guarantees the unity of the country, its territorial integrity and offers a large self-autonomy to the different Islands.

United Nations reform and expansion of the Security Council

32. The Meeting reiterated the Islamic Group's stance in support of the principle of the United Nations reform, including the expansion of the Security Council's membership, in accordance with the United Nations General Assembly resolutions, and taking into consideration the equitable geographic distribution and the States' equal right to sovereignty. It also called for a comprehensive reform of the Security Council in all its aspects so as to make it more democratic, representative, transparent and accountable.

33. The Meeting welcomed the initiative of the Republic of Turkey to convene in Istanbul next year, a joint forum of Foreign Ministers of OIC members and observers and European Union members and candidate countries for accession, to contribute to a better understanding and harmony at the universal level. It called upon the Member States to participate in the Istanbul forum and requested the General Secretariat of the OIC to contribute to the said forum.

34. The Meeting welcomed the generous offer of the Government of the Republic of the Sudan to host the 29th session of the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers , in a date to be determined in coordination with the OIC General Secretariat.

35. The Meeting expressed its deep appreciation to the valuable efforts exerted by His Highness Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al-Thani, Emir of the State of Qatar, and Chairman of the Ninth Session of the Islamic Summit, in supporting the common Islamic action and to defend the interests of the Islamic Ummah, as well as hosting many extraordinary Islamic conferences in Doha, and for his support to all the efforts aimed at helping the Afghan people in their current plight, and supporting the Palestinian people in face of the ferocious campaign and state terrorism practiced by Israel.

36. The Meeting expressed its appreciation for the efforts of the Secretary -General of the OIC for the reforms of the Organization in accordance with the relevant Islamic Summit and ICFM resolutions.

37. The Meeting expressed appreciation and satisfaction for the excellent performance of the Permanent Observer Mission of the OIC to the United Nations in New York in discharging its duties in conformity with the resolutions of the OIC Summit and Ministerial Conferences.

New York,30 Shaa'ban 1422H,
15 November 2001

United Nations S/2002/83

Security Council

Distr.: General
18 January 2002

Original: English

Letter dated 16 January 2002 from the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1343 (2001) concerning Liberia addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit herewith the report of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1343 (2001) of 7 March 2001 concerning Liberia, containing an account of the Committee's activities from 7 March to 31 December 2001 (see annex). The report, which was adopted by the Committee today, 16 January 2002, is being submitted in accordance with the note by the President of the Security Council of 29 March 1995 (S/1995/234).

(*Signed*) Kishore **Mahbubani**
Chairman
Security Council Committee established pursuant to
resolution 1343 (2001) concerning Liberia

02-22735 (E) 240102

Annex

Report of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1343 (2001) concerning Liberia

I. Introduction

1. The present report of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1343 (2001) of 7 March 2001 concerning Liberia covers the period from 7 March to 31 December 2001.

2. The Bureau consisted of Ambassador Kishore Mahbubani (Singapore) as Chairman, with the delegations of Ireland and Mauritius providing the Vice-Chairmen. During this period, the Committee held nine meetings in addition to informal consultations.

II. Background information and summary of the work of the Committee

A. Background information

3. In its resolution 788 (1992) of 19 November 1992 the Security Council imposed a general and complete arms embargo on Liberia, and in its resolution 985 (1995) of 13 April 1995 the Security Council established a Committee to monitor its implementation.

4. In resolution 1343 (2001) of 7 March 2001, the Council dissolved the Committee, terminated the arms embargo and replaced it with a more comprehensive arms embargo with immediate effect for a 14-month period. Under the resolution the Council also established a new Committee to ensure the effective implementation of the new arms embargo and possible additional embargoes on diamonds and travel if Liberia did not cease its support for the Revolutionary United Front (RUF) and other armed rebel groups in the region within two months.

5. On 12 April 2001, in accordance with paragraph 14 (i) of Council resolution 1343 (2001), the Committee established the list of RUF members subject to expulsion from Liberia under paragraph 2 of the resolution. This list was issued initially as SC/7047 on 12 April 2001, and revised on 23 May 2001 (SC/7062).

6. On 7 May 2001, in accordance with paragraph 8 of resolution 1343 (2001), the measures contained in paragraphs 6 (diamond ban) and 7 (travel ban) came into force for a period of 12 months. On 4 June 2001, in accordance with paragraph 14 (e) of that resolution, the Committee issued the initial list of persons subject to the travel ban (SC/7068).

7. In resolution 1343 (2001) the Council also established a five-member Panel of Experts for a period of six months, to, inter alia, monitor the implementation of the sanctions and to investigate any violations (S/2001/268). The Panel commenced work on 15 April 2001 and gave a preliminary briefing to the Committee on its activities on 15 July 2001. The report of the Panel was issued on 26 October 2001 as S/2001/1015.

B. Summary of the activities of the Committee

8. During the reporting period, the Committee received 13 notifications of travel under paragraph 7 (a) of resolution 1343 (2001), and considered 35 requests for travel ban waivers under paragraph 7 (b) of the resolution, of which 28 were granted. The Committee also received 13 requests for deletion from the list of persons affected by the travel ban (SC/7068 of 4 June 2001) and has yet to receive any request for exemption of non-lethal military equipment under paragraph 5 (c).

9. At its 4th, 5th and 9th meetings, held on 20 July, 7 August and 12 December, respectively, the Committee decided to retain the names of seven persons who had requested that their names be removed from the list of persons affected by the travel ban. On 18 December 2001, pursuant to its decision (at its 5th meeting) to conduct quarterly reviews of the travel ban list, the Committee decided, under the no-objection procedure, to delete the names of five persons. The outstanding request for deletion will be dealt with at the next quarterly review. Subsequently, the travel ban list was reissued as SC/7253 on 26 December 2001.

10. The Committee has had detailed discussions but has not yet been able to adopt guidelines for the conduct of its work as mandated under paragraph 14 (c) of resolution 1343 (2001).

11. Pursuant to paragraph 18 of resolution 1343 (2001), by which States are requested to report to the Committee within 30 days of the promulgation of the travel ban list on the actions they have taken to implement the measures imposed by paragraphs 5 to 7, to date 42 replies have been received from States in response to the Committee's note verbale (SCA/1/01/(10)) of 7 June 2001 and its follow-up (SCA/1/01(14)) of 27 August 2001 (see appendix).

C. Violations and alleged violations of the sanctions regime

12. Under paragraph 14 (b) of resolution 1343 (2001), the Committee is mandated "to consider, and to take appropriate action on, information brought to its attention by States concerning alleged violations of the measures imposed by paragraphs 5 to 7 [of the resolution], identifying where possible, persons or entities, including vessels or aircraft, reported to be engaged in such violations, and to make periodic reports to the Council."

13. At its first meeting, held on 5 April 2001, the Committee considered a letter dated 8 March 2001 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Slovak Republic addressed to the Chairman, providing information on a possible violation of the arms embargo. With respect to follow-up action, the Committee was able to agree only that the Chairman should send a letter to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, thanking him for the information provided.

14. The Committee has since received no information from States concerning violations of the sanctions regime. Any information in that regard that has come to its attention is contained in the report of the Panel of Experts pursuant to paragraph 19 (e) of resolution 1343 (2001). The report was discussed in the Committee on 22 and 25 October 2001; in informal consultations in the Security Council on 2 November 2001; and in a public debate of the Security Council on 5 November 2001 (4405th meeting). The alleged violations and recommendations contained in

the report were subsequently discussed by the Committee on 16 and 28 November 2001 and on 12 December 2001. At its 9th meeting, on 12 December 2001, the Committee requested the Chairman to address letters to seek information from States alleged to have violated paragraph 7 of resolution 1343 (2001).

III. Other activities

15. In accordance with paragraph 2 of document S/1999/92 of 29 January 1999, entitled "Note by the President of the Security Council: work of the sanctions committees", the Chairman conducted a fact-finding mission to the region (Mali, Guinea, Sierra Leone, Liberia and Nigeria) from 13 to 20 April 2001. The purpose of the visit was to ascertain the probable impact of the sanctions regime, the results and difficulties of implementation of the arms embargo as well as of the possible diamond and travel bans, scheduled to take effect on 7 May 2001; to reiterate the demands of the Security Council under paragraph 2 of resolution 1343 (2001) to the Government of Liberia; and to present the Government of Liberia with the list of RUF members whom it was required to expel (SC/7047). The Chairman briefed the Committee and the Security Council on his visit to the region on 27April 2001 and 4 May 2001, respectively.

16. On 4 May 2001, the Security Council conducted a first review, as provided in paragraph 23 of resolution 1343 (2001), of the arms embargo imposed by paragraph 5, as well as of Liberia's compliance with the demands of the Council as stated in paragraph 2 of the resolution. The members of the Council considered the report of the Secretary-General (S/2001/424 dated 30 April 2001) issued pursuant to paragraph 12 of the resolution, inputs from the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), and relevant information provided by the Committee. The Council decided to implement paragraphs 6 and 7 of resolution 1343 (2001), imposing additional measures in the form of a ban on the import of Liberian rough diamonds as well as the travel of senior members of the Liberian Government and its armed forces, their spouses, and any individuals providing support to armed rebel groups in countries neighbouring Liberia, as designated by the Committee (SC/7058).

17. Following the consultations of the Council of 4 May 2001, the President of the Council made a statement to the press on behalf of the members, noting, inter alia, that the members had concluded that the information available and the steps taken by the Government of Liberia had not been sufficient for the Council to decide that additional sanctions under resolution 1343 (2001) should be postponed. Stressing that the sanctions were limited, targeted and addressed to the Liberian leadership, he expressed the concern of the members with regard to the humanitarian situation in Liberia, as well as their interest in continuing and strengthening the strong cooperation that existed between the United Nations, ECOWAS and the Council.

18. The Security Council, on 7 November 2001, held its second review as provided for in paragraph 23 of resolution 1343 (2001) and considered an oral report by the Chairman, the report of the Panel of Experts on Liberia (S/2001/1015), the reports of the Secretary-General pursuant to paragraph 13 (a) and (b) of the resolution (S/2001/939 and S/2001/965), and pursuant to paragraph 12 (S/2001/1025), on Liberia's compliance with the sanctions regime. Following the consultations, the President of the Council made a statement to the press in which he

noted that the members of the Council had had full and detailed discussions on whether the sanctions were having the desired effect; prospects for modifications in the sanctions regime; the possibility of additional sanctions; and how to ensure that the current sanctions regime remained targeted. He further noted that the members had agreed that the Council must remain engaged with Liberia and its people and encouraged the positive developments in the region. Finally, he stated that the members of the Council had requested the Committee to examine the recommendations contained in the report of the Panel of Experts on Liberia, and to submit a report on those recommendations to the Council for consideration as soon as possible.

IV. Observations

19. In the absence of any specific monitoring mechanism to ensure the effective implementation of the sanctions regime, the Committee urges all States and organizations in a position to provide it with pertinent information to do so.

Appendix

Replies received from States in accordance with paragraph 18 of Security Council resolution 1343 (2001)

State	*Date of report*	*Symbol*
Finland	21 June 2001	S/AC.39/2001/1
Singapore	26 June 2001	S/AC.39/2001/2
Gambia	27 June 2001	S/AC.39/2001/3
Russian Federation	27 June 2001 7 September 2001	S/AC.39/2001/4 S/AC.39/2001/30
United Kingdom	26 June 2001	S/AC.39/2001/5
Bulgaria	25 June 2001 13 August 2001 26 September 2001	S/AC.39/2001/6 S/AC.39/2001/26 S/AC.39/2001/26/Add.1
Ukraine	1 July 2001	S/AC.39/2001/7
Slovak Republic	2 July 2001	S/AC.39/2001/8
Ecuador	3 July 2001	S/AC.39/2001/9
New Zealand	3 July 2001	S/AC.39/2001/10
Monaco	9 July 2001	S/AC.39/2001/11
France	3 July 2001	S/AC.39/2001/12
Lebanon	9 July 2001	S/AC.39/2001/13
Belize	20 June 2001	S/AC.39/2001/14
Turkey	11 July 2001	S/AC.39/2001/15
Slovenia	17 July 2001	S/AC.39/2001/16
Portugal	17 July 2001	S/AC.39/2001/17
Jamaica	20 July 2001	S/AC.39/2001/18
Malta	23 July 2001 25 September 2001	S/AC.39/2001/19 S/AC.39/2001/19/Add.1
Kazakhstan	18 July 2001	S/AC.39/2001/20
Switzerland	2 August 2001	S/AC.39/2001/21
Liechtenstein	1 August 2001	S/AC.39/2001/22
Belgium	8 August 2001	S/AC.39/2001/23
Austria	10 August 2001	S/AC.39/2001/24

State	*Date of report*	*Symbol*
Canada	10 August 2001	S/AC.39/2001/25
Japan	8 August 2001	S/AC.39/2001/27
Ireland	23 August 2001	S/AC.39/2001/28
Italy	5 September 2001	S/AC.39/2001/29
Denmark	12 September 2001	S/AC.39/2001/31
Belarus	11 September 2001	S/AC.39/2001/32
China	14 September 2001	S/AC.39/2001/33
Spain	17 September 2001	S/AC.39/2001/34
Croatia	21 September 2001	S/AC.39/2001/35
Niger	24 September 2001	S/AC.39/2001/36
Sweden	3 October 2001	S/AC.39/2001/37
United States	5 October 2001	S/AC.39/2001/38
Australia	11 October 2001	S/AC.39/2001/39
Greece	23 October 2001	S/AC.39/2001/40
Tunisia	15 November 2001	S/AC.39/2001/41
Mauritius	27 November 2001	S/AC.39/2001/42
Mexico	28 November 2001	S/AC.39/2001/43
Thailand	16 July 2001	S/AC.39/2001/44

United Nations S/2002/84

Security Council

Distr.: General
18 January 2002

Original: English

Letter dated 18 January 2002 from the Acting Chairman of the Security Council Committee established by resolution 661 (1990) concerning the situation between Iraq and Kuwait addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit herewith, for the attention of the members of the Council, a report of the Security Council Committee established by resolution 661 (1990) concerning the situation between Iraq and Kuwait pursuant to paragraph 6, subparagraph (f), of the guidelines to facilitate full international implementation of paragraphs 24, 25 and 27 of Security Council resolution 687 (1991).

The report was approved by the Committee on 17 January 2002.

(*Signed*) Jagdish **Koonjul**
Acting Chairman
Security Council Committee established by resolution 661 (1990)
concerning the situation between Iraq and Kuwait

02-22038 (E) 180102

Annex

Report of the Committee established by resolution 661 (1990) concerning the situation between Iraq and Kuwait pursuant to paragraph 6, subparagraph (f) of the guidelines to facilitate full international implementation of paragraphs 24, 25 and 27 of Security Council resolution 687 (1991)

1. The present report is submitted by the Security Council Committee established by resolution 661 (1990) concerning the situation between Iraq and Kuwait, in accordance with paragraph 6, subparagraph (f) of the guidelines to facilitate full international implementation of paragraphs 24, 25 and 27 of Security Council resolution 687 (1991) of 3 April 1991 approved by Security Council resolution 700 (1991) of 17 June 1991 (S/22660, annex).

2. Under paragraph 6, subparagraph (f), of the guidelines, the Committee is required to report at 90-day intervals to the Security Council on the implementation of the arms and related sanctions against Iraq contained in the relevant resolutions of the Security Council. The present report is the forty-third report submitted under the above-mentioned guidelines.

3. By paragraph 12 of the guidelines, all States are requested to report to the Committee any information that may have come to their attention relating to possible violations by other States or foreign nationals of the arms and related sanctions against Iraq. During the period covered by the present report, the Committee continued its consideration of a letter dated 7 September 2001 from the Permanent Mission of the United Kingdom to the United Nations drawing the Committee's attention to some German press articles concerning a reported Iraqi attempt to develop its weapons of mass destruction programmes.

4. By paragraphs 13 and 15 of the guidelines, all States and international organizations are required to consult the Committee on the question whether certain items fall within the provisions of paragraph 24 of resolution 687 (1991), as well as in cases relating to dual-use or multiple-use items which are meant for civilian use but with potential for diversion or conversion to military use. During the period under review, the Committee has not been consulted by any State or international organization on questions related to dual-use or multi-use items.

5. By paragraph 14 of the guidelines, international organizations are requested to take all appropriate steps to assist in ensuring full compliance with the arms and related sanctions against Iraq, including providing to the Committee any information of this kind that may come to their attention. During the period of the present report, no such information as requested by paragraph 14 of the guidelines has been brought to the attention of the Committee.

6. The Committee will continue its efforts to fulfil the mandate entrusted to it by the Security Council. Since the last report of the Secretary-General, dated 4 December 1991 (S/22884/Add.2), no further communications have been received from Member States pursuant to paragraph 4 of Security Council resolution 700 (1991).

United Nations S/2002/85

Security Council

Distr.: General
18 January 2002

Original: English

Letter dated 18 January 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Sierra Leone to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith a speech by Alhaji Ahmad Tejan Kabbah, President of the Republic of Sierra Leone, at a ceremony marking the conclusion of disarmament in Sierra Leone today, Friday, 18 January 2002 (see annex).

I should be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be issued as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ibrahim M. **Kamara**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

02-22077 (E) 210102

Annex to the letter dated 18 January 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Sierra Leone to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Speech by the President of Sierra Leone, His Excellency Alhaji Dr. Ahmad Tejan Kabbah, at the ceremony marking the conclusion of disarmament and the destruction of weapons, delivered at Lungi, 18 January 2002

Never before since March 1996 when I took the solemn oath of office to lead this nation have I been so moved by a public ceremony as the one we are witnessing here today. It is indeed an honour and a great privilege for me to stand here and serve as host for this awe-inspiring declaration of peace in Sierra Leone.

Not too long ago, the flames of war were mercilessly consuming thousands of innocent lives and countless property in several parts of our country. Today, we are happy that those flames of war have been extinguished, and that now we are about to watch the flames of peace destroy some of the implements of war. What a relief! The ceremony marks the symbolic conclusion of the disarmament process, and an historic expression of our deep sense of national triumph.

The presence of some of my colleagues, President John Kufour and so many Foreign and Defence Ministers underscores the significance of the occasion. I should, therefore, on behalf of the people of Sierra Leone and on my own personal behalf, start by extending a warm welcome to you all. We also welcome the Executive Secretary of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), Dr. Mohamed Chambers, and high level representatives of other leaders and heads of organizations who would have also liked to join us here today but were unable to do so because of pressing commitments. I have no doubt that they also associate themselves with the spirit of this ceremony.

The conflict that has just formally ended was essentially an internal conflict. However, no one should underestimate its regional and international dimensions and implications. So let me touch briefly on the roles of ECOWAS, the United Nations and the rest of the international community.

Today, as we celebrate the dawn of lasting peace and security in Sierra Leone, we are also symbolically erecting a new milestone on the road to peace and stability in the West African subregion. The events in the past 10 to 12 years have shown that the proverbial "we are our neighbour's keeper" has become more relevant to the situation in our subregion.

To our sister States of ECOWAS, it is an understatement to say that you have given true meaning to the concept of collective regional security. The mandate that ECOWAS received from the United Nations Security Council in resolution 1132 (1997), under Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations, to enforce and monitor implementation of the arms and oil embargo against the rebel-military junta, was a landmark decision. It was an acknowledgement of the capacity of ECOWAS as an instrument of conflict resolution in the international system. It turned out to be one of the stepping stones towards the peace process in Sierra Leone.

I should like to pay special tribute to those States members of ECOWAS that have advanced the cause of peace in Sierra Leone as troop contributors to the ECOWAS Monitoring Group (ECOMOG), in particular, Nigeria, Guinea, Ghana and Mali, or as facilitators and hosts of peace talks, especially Côte d'Ivoire and Togo. To other States of the Community that demonstrated their solidarity with the people of Sierra Leone throughout the conflict, we salute you.

We remember those ECOMOG soldiers who made the supreme sacrifice of giving up their own lives to that our children can live in peace. We renew our assurances to their families and respective Governments that their memories will forever remain in our hearts. I would like to reassure you that every Sierra Leonean knows that without ECOWAS and its monitoring group, ECOMOG, the prospects for disarmament and peace would have been extremely bleak.

Let me, however, point out that, notwithstanding the resounding success of ECOWAS in Sierra Leone, the organization is facing a serious challenge to its principal mission, namely, "to promote regional integration in all fields of economic activity". There are still elements of threats to peace in our subregion. These include the illicit transfer of arms and ammunition, the illicit trade in diamonds and other natural resources to fuel or prolong armed conflict and in the process wreak havoc on innocent and defenceless civilians. These cruel and destabilizing activities are an anomaly. They continue to impede development. They must be eliminated so that we can devote all our energy, collectively, to the task of lifting our peoples out of the bondage of abject poverty.

As we watch a collection of arms and ammunition go up in flames, we must remind ourselves of the need to faithfully respect the ECOWAS moratorium on the importation, exportation and manufacture of light weapons in West Africa. We must see the moratorium as both a security mechanism and a catalyst of economic and social development in West Africa. Sierra Leone wholeheartedly endorsed the action taken last July to extend the moratorium for another three years.

Excellencies, please allow me on this occasion to appeal to all members of ECOWAS and the inter-State groupings within the Community for a new commitment, not only to the principles of good neighbourliness, but, more importantly, to the ideals of brotherhood. We, the leaders of our respective nations in the subregion, often refer to each other as brothers. Let us use the success that we are celebrating today as a source of inspiration to work harder in strengthening the family and other ties that bind us as one great community of peoples.

Excellencies, distinguished guests:

The people of Sierra Leone are equally grateful to the United Nations and the rest of the international community for their support in making this celebration possible. We acknowledge that long before the outbreak of the rebel war, many of your representatives were here in this country as partners in development, helping us to take care of the health and welfare of our children; working hand-in-hand with our own nationals to construct roads and bridges, equip schools and hospitals and develop high-yielding seeds for greater food production; and building the capacity of Sierra Leoneans to be economically self-sufficient.

In the course of the war, international organizations provided essential humanitarian relief to thousands of Sierra Leonean refugees and the internally displaced. They have also lent their support in rehabilitation and reconstruction

programmes. We must confess, though, that there were times in the course of the armed conflict when many of our people thought that we were being abandoned, or that our cry for help was perhaps not loud enough to prod the world to provide the quality and quantum of response that our precarious situation required. There were other occasions when the average Sierra Leonean felt that repeated requests for urgent international assistance to enable ECOMOG to do the job would never materialize. Secretary-General Kofi Annan once had to make a plea that the international community must not fail the people of Sierra Leone.

However, as I often observe, Sierra Leone has tested the capacity of the United Nations, and indeed the international community, to respond to the major challenges of our times in the areas of peacekeeping, humanitarian relief, the protection of human rights and the administration of justice. Your overall response to those challenges has been extraordinary. This is reflected in the operations of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone (UNAMSIL), in the activities of such agencies as the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the United Nations Children's Fund, and more recently in the decision to establish the Special Court. For these and other forms of assistance, we are profoundly grateful. Without the contribution of the various organizations and agencies, governmental and non-governmental, most of us would not have lived to see this glorious day.

In thanking all countries that have contributed troops and to UNAMSIL, let me also on this occasion renew our expression of deepest sympathy to the families and Governments of the UNAMSIL peacekeepers who lost their lives in the service of the United Nations on our soil.

To the United Nations and the international community, I must reiterate that the process of disarmament is formally over. However, the equally formidable tasks of reintegration and rehabilitation have only just begun. In this connection, I wish to draw your attention to the recent observation by Secretary-General Kofi Annan that "the limited availability of reintegration opportunities for ex-combatants, as a result of inadequate funds, remains a source of serious concern". We could not agree with him more.

The international community cannot afford to create another feeling of abandonment in the minds of Sierra Leoneans, especially the young ex-combatants and those who could be described as non-combatants. We therefore appeal to the international community to remain engaged in our efforts to consolidate the peace in Sierra Leone. We know from experience that the timeliness and level of international assistance often determine the course of events in conflict and post-conflict situations. We continue to count on your support.

Excellencies, distinguished guests:

Sierra Leone has many friends within the international community. But we also have some very very good and faithful friends; friends whom we are obliged to single out for special commendation by name on an occasion such as this. I refer to the United Kingdom, the Federal Republic of Nigeria, the United States of America and the People's Republic of China. The Governments and peoples of these friendly States deserve separate chapters in the history of our transition from war to peace. As the old adage goes, "a friend in need is a friend indeed".

Now, to you, my compatriots, this is the day we have all been patiently waiting for. As I told you two Sundays ago, the rest of the world has been impressed by our

resilience. Your courage has been exemplary. You fought hard, not merely to defend your right to live but also to uphold the principles of democratic governance and the rule of law. A few individuals declared war and used others to wage and prolong the senseless war. We continue to maintain that your response was an act of legitimate self-defence.

We have learned the hard way that the paths to disarmament and peace are not paved with gold. There was considerable loss of life and destruction of property. We encountered obstacles of various dimensions, such as intransigence, bad faith, greed, fear, apprehension, and, in some instances, financial constraints. There were inordinate delays and detours on the road. Today we can take pride in the fact that we have at last arrived at a stage where for the first time in more than 10 years, we can confidently speak about real peace and security.

This ceremony marking the symbolic conclusion of disarmament, and in celebration of peace, is so important for every one of us that we intend to replicate it in other parts of the country over the next several days. Many of those who are not present here today will also have the opportunity to witness and be part of the celebration of this dramatic change in the history of Sierra Leone.

Fellow compatriots, as the celebration continues, we are about to face our first major challenge in the area of peaceful political transition, namely presidential and parliamentary elections. The elections will test our ability to apply the new culture of peace that we recently embraced in our relations with each other. The forthcoming electoral process will test our patriotism, our determination to put armed conflict behind us and to renounce violence as a means of bringing about political or any other change in this country. If we really appreciate peace, we should live and practice peace.

Let me take this opportunity to reiterate that an election is not a war. The war is over. What we are about to embark upon is a friendly contest. Election is a process by which we should freely and peacefully choose those who we believe are qualified to assume the heavy responsibility of serving this nation.

I am confident that, guided by the lessons of the past 10 years and inspired by this symbolic but momentous occasion we are witnessing today, the forthcoming elections will be free and fair, and will be the most peaceful in the history of our beloved country.

Fellow compatriots, another test that we must pass is in the area of reconciliation and justice. We must recognize that justice and reconciliation are major components of peace. Furthermore, the administration of justice is an integral part of the process of national reconciliation. If we really want to consolidate the peace, if we really want to facilitate the process of national reconciliation, we must be prepared to deal effectively with the trauma, the emotional pain resulting from that bitter conflict. One principal institution designed for this purpose is of course the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. We should all look forward to its proceedings and the outcome of its work.

And speaking of reconciliation brings me to the issue of the Special Court, which, I must emphasize, is part of the process of national reconciliation. One cannot speak about the need for national reconciliation and at the same time ignore or dismiss the moral and constitutional imperative of upholding the rule of law. The Special Court is about accountability. It is about justice. I should add, however, that

justice is not merely an act of punishment, of revenge or of retribution. In our situation it is a means of dealing with impunity. It is also a means of ensuring that at all times, the human rights of every individual, including those who are caught up in armed conflict, are respected and protected.

Excellencies, distinguished guests, fellow Sierra Leoneans,

On this auspicious occasion, I have spoken about peace in Sierra Leone and the roles of our subregional organization, the United Nations and the rest of the international community, as well as our own effort in securing the peace that we are here to celebrate. I spoke about arms, about war and about the need for peaceful political change through free and fair elections. I also dwelt on what I consider our collective responsibility to cooperate in consolidating the gains we have made through, among other things, such components of peace as justice, the rule of law, protection of human rights, national reconciliation and the maintenance of an open society.

I must pause here to explain the concept of an open society. An open society and civil society are often confused with each other. Actually, a healthy civil society is part of an open society, but only a part. We are told that an open society also needs a democratic government and a private sector that is independent of the government. To safeguard these elements it needs the rule of law.

We must note, however, that peace and reconciliation cannot be imposed, cannot be decreed and cannot be established by legislation or by commission. Peace and forgiveness must come from the hearts and minds of the people concerned, namely, us Sierra Leoneans.

Excellencies, distinguished ladies and gentlemen:

The main thrust of my remarks could be summarized in the following profound words of wisdom from His Holiness Pope John Paul II. They were addressed to the diplomatic corps accredited to the Holy See four years ago this month. His Holiness said:

> "If violent attainment of power becomes the norm, if insistence on ethnic consideration continues to override all concerns, if democratic representation is systematically put aside, if corruption and arms trade continue to rage, then Africa will never experience peace and development, and future generations will mercilessly judge these pages of African history."

The message was for Africa, from someone of high repute who sees himself as a friend of Africa. I believe that it is also appropriate for this particular gathering.

Thank you once again for your presence and support in our continued search for sustainable peace, security and the development of this country.

United Nations A/56/781–S/2002/86

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
18 January 2002

Original: English

General Assembly
Fifty-sixth session
Agenda item 166
Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Security Council
Fifty-seventh year

Letter dated 18 January 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I wish to draw your attention to the latest act of Palestinian terrorism directed against Israel.

Yesterday, a Palestinian gunman walked into a crowded reception hall in the city of Hadera in northern Israel and opened fire with a semi-automatic rifle, killing six people and wounding more than thirty, four of them critically. At the time of the incident, scores of children and adults had gathered in the hall for a bat mitzvah party, after the traditional Jewish service to mark the transition of a girl to womanhood. The gunman was killed by the Israeli police. The Al-Aqsa Martyr Brigades, a group linked to Yasser Arafat's Fatah movement, claimed responsibility for the attack.

Today's attack represents the latest incident in the continuing campaign of Palestinian terrorism directed against Israeli civilians. Previous attacks have been detailed in my letters dated 16 January 2002 (A/56/774-S/2002/73), 11 January 2002 (A/56/771-S/2002/47), 4 January 2002 (A/56/766-S/2002/25), 13 December 2001 (A/56/706-S/2001/1198), 4 December 2001 (A/56/678-S/2001/1150), 30 November 2001 (A/56/670-S/2001/1141), 27 November 2001 (A/56/663-S/2001/1121), 12 November 2001 (A/56/617-S/2001/1071), 5 November 2001 (A/56/604-S/2001/1048), 24 October 2001 (A/56/506-S/2001/1011), 19 October 2001 (A/56/492-S/2001/990), 17 October 2001 (A/56/483-S/2001/975), 8 October 2001 (A/56/450-S/2001/948), 5 October 2001 (A/56/444-S/2001/943), 3 October 2001 (A/56/438-S/2001/938), 24 September 2001 (A/56/406-S/2001/907), 20 September 2001 (A/56/386-S/2001/892), 17 September 2001 (A/56/367-S/2001/875), 7 September 2001 (A/56/346-S/2001/858), 4 September 2001 (A/56/331-S/2001/840), 30 August 2001 (A/56/325-S/2001/834), 27 August 2001 (A/56/324-S/2001/825), 13 August 2001 (A/56/294-S/2001/787), 9 August 2001 (A/56/286-S/2001/780), 8 August 2001 (A/56/280-S/2001/775), 6 August 2001 (A/56/272-S/2001/768), 27 July 2001 (A/56/225-S/2001/743), 26 July 2001 (A/56/223-S/2001/737), 17 July 2001 (A/56/201-S/2001/706), 13 July 2001 (A/56/184-S/2001/696), 3 July 2001

02-21996 (E) 180102

(A/56/138-S/2001/662), 2 July 2001 (A/56/131-S/2001/656), 21 June 2001 (A/56/119-S/2001/619), 19 June 2001 (A/56/98-S/2001/611), 18 June 2001 (A/56/97-S/2001/604), 13 June 2001 (A/56/92-S/2001/585), 11 June 2001 (A/56/91-S/2001/580), 4 June 2001 (A/56/85-S/2001/555), 30 May 2001 (A/56/81-S/2001/540), 25 May 2001 (A/56/80-S/2001/524), 18 May 2001 (A/56/78-S/2001/506), 11 May 2001 (A/56/72-S/2001/473), 9 May 2001 (A/56/69-S/2001/459), 1 May 2001 (A/55/924-S/2001/435), 23 April 2001 (A/55/910-S/2001/396), 16 April 2001 (A/55/901-S/2001/364), 28 March 2001 (A/55/863-S/2001/291), 27 March 2001 (A/55/860-S/2001/280), 26 March 2001 (A/55/858-S/2001/278), 19 March 2001 (A/55/842-S/2001/244), 5 March 2001 (A/55/821-S/2001/193), 2 March 2001 (A/55/819-S/2001/187), 14 February 2001 (A/55/787-S/2001/137), 13 February 2001 (A/55/781-S/2001/132), 2 February 2001 (A/55/762-S/2001/103), 25 January 2001 (A/55/748-S/2001/81), 23 January 2001 (A/55/742-S/2001/71), 28 December 2000 (A/55/719-S/2000/1252), 22 November 2000 (A/55/641-S/2000/1114), 20 November 2000 (A/55/634-S/2000/1108) and 2 November 2000 (A/55/540-S/2000/1065).

We hold Chairman Arafat and the Palestinian Authority responsible for yesterday's attack in the light of their continuing role in supporting and perpetrating terrorist attacks against Israel and their persistent refusal to take the necessary action against terrorist organizations. Chairman Arafat and the Palestinian leadership continue their duplicitous tactics, whereby they call for an end to violence and occasionally even condemn violence when it occurs, while continuing to actively support and harbour terrorists. It should be emphasized that the terrorist attack yesterday was perpetrated by a group linked to Mr. Arafat's Fatah movement.

The continuation of terrorism against Israel emanating from the territories of the Palestinian Authority constitutes the greatest obstacle to the resumption of a negotiated political process. Such a process, as the parties themselves have agreed, is the only possible and acceptable way to address the needs and aspirations of both sides. Israel calls on the international community, in the context of its global campaign against terrorism, to exert maximum and unrelenting pressure on the Palestinian leadership to fulfil its obligations to fight terrorism and to ensure its compliance with international norms.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter circulated as a document of the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 166, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Yehuda **Lancry**
Permanent Representative